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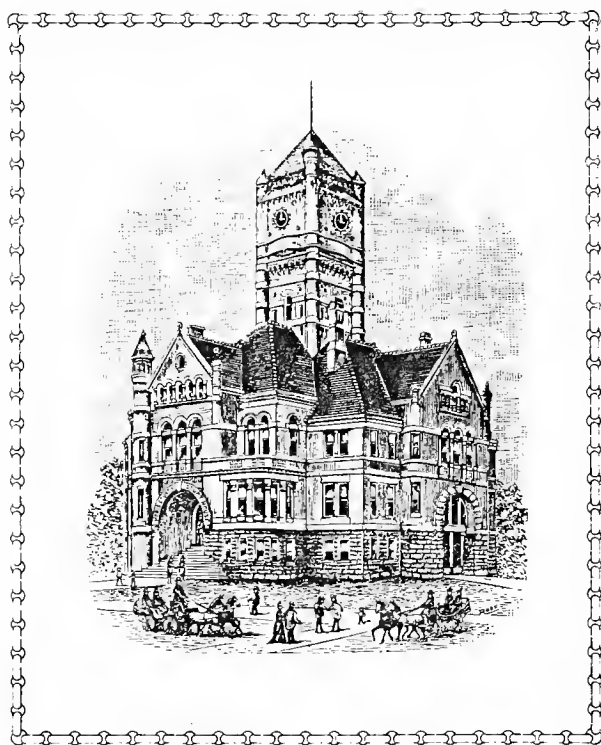




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POPULAR HISTORY
OF
NOBLE COUNTY CAPITALS
AND
Greater Albion

Growth, Resources, Surroundings, Facilities
and Industrial Opportunities, Interesting
Sketches and Reminiscences, with a
Business and Professional Guide.

ILLUSTRATED

EDITED AND COMPILED BY GEO. W. ROOF



ALBION, INDIANA.
NEW ERA PUBLISHING HOUSE
1908

SUMMARY.

Noble County in Embryo.
The Chaotic State.
Beginning of Capitals.
Existence to 1846.
Albion Organized.
Her First Decade.
Business and Early Press.
Sketches and Reminiscences.
Beneficial Reflections.
Concluding Tribute.

INTRODUCTORY.

It is a singular fact that a county history has been written and published several times in various forms, while Albion's history and that of Noble county capitals have been neglected,—although the necessity for a publication embodying our early beginnings has existed for many years. Important events during the sixty-one years of Albion's existence have been crowding each other into its unwritten history; and yet, within these six decades, with two generations of progressive, reading people, no reliable or permanent record has been preserved.

For the purpose of supplying to the general reader of Noble county, and particularly to the citizens of Greater Albion, a valuable and popular history of Noble county capitals the author and publishers of the present work have undertaken, in the succeeding pages, to carry out the conditions embodied in its general title; believing that its perusal will enlarge individual interest at home, and serve to enkindle additional love and appreciation of the intelligent founding of our own capital; and our citizens, with their country friends, be persuaded to assist in the perpetuation of our intellectual and business advantages consequent upon a Greater Albion.

To edit, compile, illustrate, print, bind, solicit and distribute a history of this kind requires patience, hard labor, time and money. But we have met with hearty encouragement in our undertaking, and are grateful for favors shown.

This history may not be faultless,—indeed, so far as our observation extends, few are; but we believe that our efforts to be accurate and to please, and to assist in preserving the good name of our little city and its environs, will be appreciated by the more thoughtful.

Respectfully,

PRICKETT & ROOF.

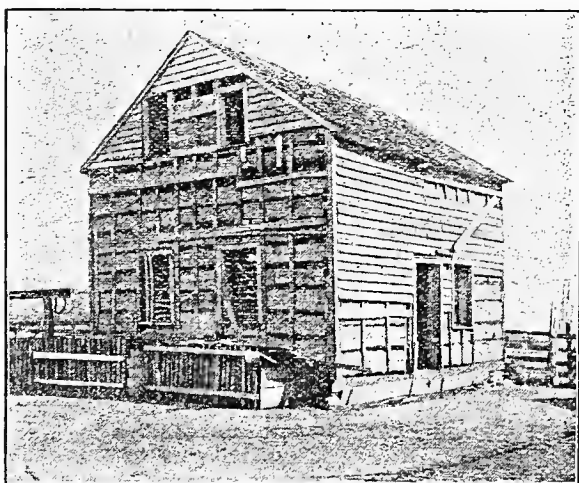
FIRST COURT HOUSE.

The log structure shown on opposite side of this page was erected by Adam Engle, in 1832, in Sparta township. It was chosen May 3, 1836, as the seat of justice for Noble county, and the first court held therein, presided over by Judge Sample,—one record says in November, and another in September, of that year.

James Latta and Elisha Blackman were the associate justices. Those known to have served on the grand jury were Seymour Moses, Joseph Bradford, George Benner, Lewis Murphy and William Caldwell. The first case tried was for assault and battery. (Refer to pages 5 and 6.)

One historian says that Jacob Shobe built the first "hewn" log cabin in 1833; while it is readily seen that our Engle court house, here shown, which was erected in 1832, is also "hewn" logs.

FIRST NOBLE COUNTY CAPITOL.



BUILT BY ADAM ENGLE IN 1832.

(Engraved expressly for Roof's "Popular History
of Noble County Capitals.")

CAPITAL BEGINNINGS.

PART I.

First Settlement—Capital Beginnings—First Court and Elections—
Augusta and Destruction of Records—Population—Port
Mitchell Manufactures—Naming of Albion.

At the time of the first settlement of what is now Noble county, by Joel Bristol in April, 1827, made in Noble township, its territory belonged to Allen county; and as late as the year 1832, Noble county was a part of Lagrange county. The county of Noble was so named in honor of Noah Noble, then governor of Indiana, and was organized in the year 1836; and in September the first court was held at the house of Adam Engle, in Sparta township, presided over by Hon. Samuel C. Sample. In the spring of 1836 followed the first election of county officers at a log cabin on Perry's Prairie. At this election Isaac Spencer was elected clerk and recorder; James Hostetter, sheriff, and ex-officio treasurer, assessor and collector; Henry Engle, coroner; and Joel Bristol, Henry Hostetter, and Abraham Pancake, county commissioners. Mr. Latta and Elisha Blackman were elected associate judges, Hon. Henry R. Burnham becoming the first probate judge. He held this office for fifteen years. At this first election only the sheriff and coroner were reported to the secretary of state.

The earliest county business outside Circuit and Probate, was transacted by a board of justices, two being selected from each township.

The county seat locations may thus be summarized: Sparta was first selected as seat of justice by commissioners appointed by the legislature, who met May 3, 1836; at which meeting Sparta (sec. 24) was chosen. In 1837 a special act of the legislature was passed February 4, authorizing the appointment of other commissioners to relocate the seat of justice. They selected Augusta, and in 1838 the courts of Noble began doing regular business.

In 1843 the court house at Augusta was burned destroying the records of the auditor and treasurer.

In 1844 commissioners were again appointed by legislative enactment to relocate the seat of justice again. They selected Port Mitchell; and in that year a court house was built there at a cost of \$359.00. Offices were built independent of the court house, for the clerk, recorder, auditor and sheriff, costing \$999.00.

In 1846, by act of legislature, the citizens were authorized to hold an election to vote upon another location. In April of that year the following places were candidates for county seat, which were voted upon: Augusta, Port Mitchell, Rochester, Northport, "The Center," Ligonier, Wolf Lake and Lisbon. There was no choice at this election, so another election was ordered in

June, with the same result. A third election was held in August, at which the result was that the "Center" (afterward Albion) was chosen.

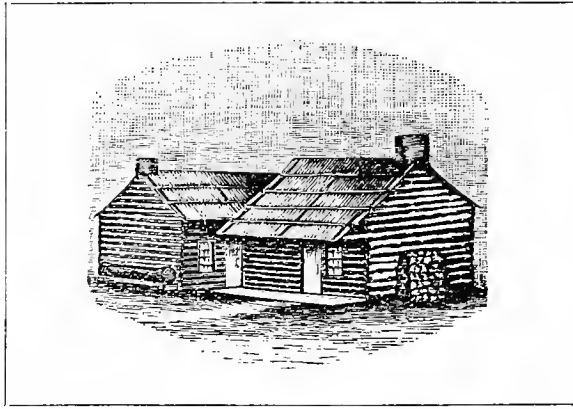
According to Mr. F. D. Spencer, the name "Albion" was given our county seat as follows: After the Center was chosen, the commissioners appointed William M. Clapp, David B. Harriman and William Slack to select a name. One of these gentlemen had lived in Albion, Orleans county, N. Y., and that name was proposed. The name pleased all, the committee approved the selection, and the name was adopted.

The population of Noble county in 1840 consisted of 2,702 souls, which date was only six years prior to the selection of Albion as county seat.

In 1844 Port Mitchell enjoyed the distinction of being one of Noble county's capitals, and also thrift in manufactures and business ventures. By reference to a late county history a statement is made that in 1840 election returns of Wayne township were carried to Port Mitchell, the county seat. This, no doubt, is an error on the part of the writer, as at that time Augusta was the county seat. John Lechner, who was convicted for the murder of John Farley, was hanged at Augusta November 3, 1840.

A bit of recorded history is handed down concerning the location of the county seat at Augusta, to the effect that at the first meeting of county officers at the house of Pat. C. Miller, July 3, 1837, upon the organization of the county, Augusta was then chosen.

The first convictions of criminals was in 1838, for horse-thieving. Nine convictions were made; but county seats were still in embryo, hence there was no jail. Seven of these convicted men were sent to jail in Ft. Wayne, and two to Goshen. Both justice and bars seemed loose in those days, for the seven at Ft. Wayne escaped, and the two at Goshen were released.



We are not writing a history of Noble county; but introduce the following condition of settlement to show what small beginnings grew rapidly into prominence, and how the log cabin in a few years gave way to the more pretentious frame dwelling, which figured as important factors in the foundation for future government and the beginning of county capitals.

The amount of land entered in Noble county in 1831, was 2,680 acres,—400 in Allen, 80 in Noble, and 2,200 in Perry.

The number of actual settlers in 1831 was 39 persons; and the population in the early 1833 was 75 persons. In 1840, as we have before stated, the population had reached 2,702.

The first child born was Simon Hostetter, August 8, 1832; and the first marriage solemnized was that of Samuel Tibbott and Miss Eunice Knight. The first post offices established were "Good Hope," in Perry township, and at the site of Kendallville on December 7, 1836. The first HEWN log cabin was built by Jacob Shobe in 1833. The first preachers were Revs. Phelps and Robinson. The first Justice of the Peace was Jacob Wolf, and the first practicing attorney, Daniel E. Palmer, who located at Augusta, in 1841. The first buggy owned in Noble county was in 1833, by Benjamin Yohn. It was used the first time at a Fourth of July celebration, held at Bristol's tavern. Mr. Yohn afterwards settled in Kosciusko county, in 1847.

Mr. Samuel Beall, who settled in Wolf Lake in 1834, is the oldest living settler in Noble county.

It is claimed that Stedman Gray manufactured the first flour at Rochester, but he was also established at Port Mitchell in 1835, in perhaps the only flouring mill in Noble county. It is also claimed by historians that Adam Engle established, near Ligonier, a set of burrs, 30 inches in diameter, and by hand power manufactured the first meal, in the fall of 1832.

The first regularly educated surgeon was Dr. T. P. Bicknell, who in latter years lived in Kendallville 1859-'60. He it was who conducted, through the columns of the Noble County Journal of that city, with Dr. O. J. Vincent, a learned discussion on the subject of "Hernia vs. Rupture"—the discussion arising from a published report of a patient whom one of the doctors said was suffering from hernia. Exceptions were taken by the opponent, from which a lengthy and heated discussion followed, the end of which came only when the press censor shut down the gates of free journalism. After which Dr. Bicknell continued his discussion as paid advertising.

Port Mitchell was platted May 17, 1838, by Samuel Hanna and W. F. Engle. As a thriving business county seat, it was all that one might expect at that early period. For several years there existed an excellent flouring mill, a woolen factory, a saw mill, dry goods and general store, with other smaller places of business and manufacturing. As late as 1857, when the writer first visited Port Mitchell, the flouring mill was still doing business, the saw mill was on its last orders, and the woolen mill was out of commission. The general store was selling its wares, though in less quantities; and Frank Saltzgaber who then was in the prime of life, held down the boot and shoe last while he drove the soles to their last resting place, and sewed the "uppers" so strongly that they never ripped. In Decem-

ber, 1907, Mr. Saltzgaber enjoyed his 76th birthday, hale and hearty.

But Port Mitchell, as a county seat, was doomed. The great dam, which was erected there to furnish cheap power for manufacturing purposes, had caused the overflow of water which submerged valuable lands and caused a continual malarial sickness; and the sentiment of the inhabitants was for the removal of the dam. When once removed, manufacturing must stop,—although, for awhile, after its removal, steam power was introduced, but without appreciable success.

Augusta enjoyed the distinction of possessing a jail which was the first building constructed by the taxpayers of Noble county. After the county seat was removed to Port Mitchell, she retained the jail; but the Port had a court house—an unpretentious structure. So the honors were partially divided.

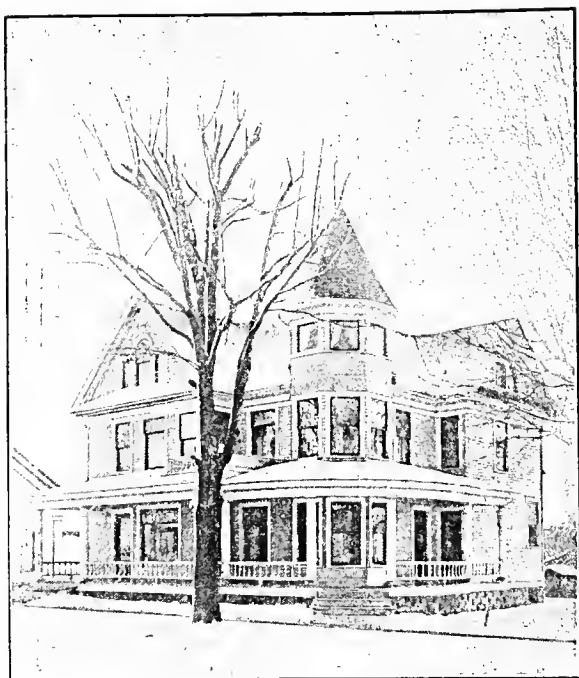
In 1855 the Forker dam broke away; the sawmill on Correll creek flooded, and swept down with it logs and other debris. The pressure came down to Port Mitchell dam, and it too burst away. However, there was much manufacturing and business interests at stake, and it was immediately rebuilt.

Forker creek is the outlet of the Green township chain of lakes, and empties into Muncie lake from the east; Gulliver's creek (by some called Correll) flows from Rivir Lake, Noble

township, and joins the Bear lake creek in section 16; then crosses the Ft. Wayne and Goshen road a mile southeast of Wolf Lake, and empties into Deep lake; thence to Marl lake, and thence into Muncie from the west. Muncie lake emptied its waters into the Port Mitchell dam; and all the overflow passed on through the Elkhart river.

But there came a time soon when the tide of her fortune was to flow out forever. The wool-en factory and the great flouring mill burned; and then, by agreement, the dam was taken down.

Port Mitchell's sun had set, and she was no more.



A Modern Residence of Albion.

ALBION ORGANIZED.

PART II.

SOME ANCIENT HISTORY—NAME HONORED BY GREEKS AND ROMANS
—MEETING AT THE "CENTER"—VOTES FOR REMOVAL—TOWN-
SHIP FORMATION—FIRST CABINS—EARLIEST RESIDENTS—
COURT HOUSES AND JAILS—BIOGRAPHIES—INTER-
ESTING EXTRACTS FROM EARLIEST PRESS.

The word ALBION, evidently signifies PURITY—LOFTINESS. The name was given to Britain on account of the lofty white cliffs on the southern coast of England. Milton remarks, "Sure enough we are that Britain hath been anciently termed ALBION, both by the Greeks and Romans."

Proud of our name, we take pleasure in recalling some fabulous history in this connection. It is related that the first inhabitants of England were subdued by a giant named ALBION, who was a son of Neptune. This giant called the island after his own name, and ruled it forty-four years.

Another version is the ancient Celtic name given to Scotland—that of Albyn; and, until Caesar's time, was the appellation of the whole island of Great Britain. It signifies HIGH ISLAND.

These references to the origin of the word, while they may seem irrelevant to our own Albion, are nevertheless valuable, and furnishes the reader with a satisfactory beginning.

Albion is located in the center of Noble county, and upon its first selection as a county capital was called the "Center." The site, like that of ancient Rome, seems to have an elevated posture sitting upon her seven hills, if not upon the "dividing ridge." Waters flow from near her and the eastern townships in three different directions. It has been written that Noble county waters run, first, into Lake Erie through Cedar Creek, the Little St. Joe and the Maumee rivers; also second, into Lake Michigan through the Elkhart and Big St. Joe rivers; also, third, into the Gulf of Mexico through the Blue into the Eel and the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers. Truly, Noble county is the water shed of America, with Albion a close suitor for the pivotal crest.

After the permanent location of the county seat at Albion was determined by a vote of the people, a ratification meeting was held at the "Center." The place of meeting was characterized principally by three stately white oak trees, which stood—as tradition goes—on the site where now rears the stately tower of Noble county's magnificent court house; and we may add, where many other oaks and shrubs made up the landscape. Indeed, ten years later there were some big stumps alarmingly near the court square.

It must be remembered that there is no separate history of Albion; hence, the township of Albion is virtually a partial record of the two townships of

Jefferson and York, from which Albion is formed.

On June 4, 1854, Sections 18 and 19 were appropriated from Jefferson, and sections 13 and 24 from York, to form Albion township—which made a tract



two miles square, or four square miles. Of course the early settlers of these two townships were closely interested in the new county seat; hence we feel justified in recording some facts in that connection.

The first election of Jefferson township in 1838,

at which there were seven votes cast, showed that the earliest settlers consisted of James Skinner, Samuel Spencer, James Thompson, Jehu Foster, John Call, John Bailey and Abram Carey. William Inscho settled in November of that year. George and Hugh, sons of William Inscho, are living near Albion. A photo engraving of Hugh is here shown.

The first settler of York township, in which was located Augusta, the county seat prior to its removal to Port Mitchell, was John Knight. He settled on section 29, in the year 1829. G. M. Applegate entered the first land October 17, 1831—on section 31. The first resident justice elected was John Bowman, and the first teacher James McMullin.

One of the early settlers of what is now Albion township, is Hon. Abel Barnum, who, in 1844, purchased a tract of 160 acres of land in that township, locating his habitation three-fourths of a mile north of the present Albion. He cut out the first road into the village.

The following persons were also identified, more or less, with the new Albion: David Harriman, William Skeels, Benjamin Potts, S. C. Spencer and six sons. Later were F. A. Black in 1845, Calvin Prouty in 1848, Daniel Hines and others.

In the original village plat near the present Walter's grocery building, was cleared, it is said, a spot for the first log cabin, built by Isaac Swarthout, at one time sheriff of Noble county. During its con-

struction himself and assistants boarded with William Skeels, who had settled in 1844 on what was afterwards known as the Shirk or Iddings farm. The old log cabin is shown on page 8. Mrs. Susanna Skeels, his wife, a pioneer, superintended the culinary department. Her many descendants and relatives, and all who have had the pleasure of her acquaintance, will testify to her big-hearted character, and will revere her memory. Samuel E. Alvord, the historian, while a young man, often partook of her hospitality. The late Hon. William Clapp and an associate attorney, went to Kendallville from Port Mitchell, in the forties, to conduct a law-suit. Returning late they arrived at the Skeels cabin, where the pioneer hospitality was freely offered. The young attorneys accepted, and Aunt Susie gave them a warm wholesome supper and then tucked them away in a good bed "on the floor." After talking and laughing an hour or more, they sweetly slept till morning, and after breakfast completed their return to the Port. Her husband, William Skeels, assisted in clearing off the present court square and furnished a part of the lumber for the first frame court house.

Mr. Fred D. Spencer says the first settler of the new Albion was James Gillespie, who built the first FRAME house; and Samuel Clymer, who brought with him a boss carpenter from Goshen, named Monroe, to superintend the building of the first frame court house, built the second frame house in Albion. It was afterward called the McMeans house.

Elijah Coats placed the cupola in position and secured the bents himself, at a height of eighty-four feet.

Hon. James M. Denny was a "forty-niner," and studied law in the office of William M. Clapp. He was elected county treasurer in 1859 and re-elected in 1861.

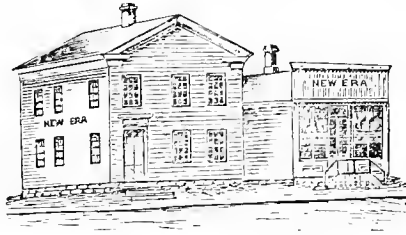
Samuel E. Alvord came to Albion in 1850. He entered early in the law and newspaper business; and was elected clerk of the Noble circuit court. He was the author of "Alvord's History."

Owen Black was born in Lancaster, Pa., in 1815. He located in Albion in 1853, and entered into the mercantile business and continued alone for fifteen years. He then formed co-partnership with his son, Jackson D. Black, in 1867. D. S. Love was a partner from 1870 until 1872. J. D. Black then purchased the partners' interests and continued sole owner until 1880. At this time his brother was taken as a partner, until 1892, then J. D. Black became sole proprietor. At present the firm name is J. D. Black & Sons. The first building burned in 1879, and was rebuilt three stories. Owen Black, the pioneer of the business, erected the first flouring mill and two sawmills in Albion. He died October 31, 1886.

George Harvey, who built the first brick court house in Albion, 1860, moved to Noble county in 1853. He died in Albion in 1893, aged 86 years.

W. A. Kuhn, a resident of Albion, was honored with the superintendency of the first Noble county poor farm, 1860, located east of Albion.

Platting the new site and building a court house were soon inaugurated. The survey and mapping for the new Albion were done November 3, 1846. The construction of the new court house was let to Harrison Wood, William M. Clapp and David B. Harriman, who sub-let it to Samuel T. Clymer, who completed it in 1847, and the records were removed to the new Albion, September 16, 1847. This court house cost the county \$4,045. The old jail which contained two log cells, we picture elsewhere. In 1858-9 it held, in durance vile, the most noted of blacklegs. It cost the modest sum of \$1,300.



This court house structure, however, was doomed to ashes; for, on January 25, 1859, the clerk's office took fire, and soon the entire wooden building was in flames. A few records only were saved,—all else was consumed.

The next building was ordered to be constructed of brick, and to be made imperishable and "upon honor." Therefore, the job was given to Messrs. George Harvey & Son—honest Scotchmen and skilled workmen. When completed in 1861 it was pronounced "very good." That court house cost

the county \$11,000. But Noble county very soon began to populate and grow in wealth beyond the expectations of the county fathers, and the business increased so rapidly to the extent that no more room could be spared in the Scotchman's brick edifice, that it was found necessary to concoct other plans to relieve the congestion. Besides, in 1887, the grand jury passed condemnation upon its facilities, and it succumbed to demolition.

The commissioners then contracted with Malone Brothers, of Toledo, Ohio, for the construction of the present magnificent court house, a picture of which graces our book as a frontispiece. The cost, with furnishings at the time of its completion in 1889, was \$114,000. Much new furnishing, internal improvements, etc., has since been added at a greater cost, affording conveniences and safety vaults for records scarcely to be equaled in the state. In 1876 a safe, handsome and convenient jail was built, costing \$27,000.

After the burning of the old wooden court house the building of Mr. Levi Thomas, near the Sunday harness shop on East Main street, was fitted up and occupied by the county officers. Court was held in the old Lutheran church on north Orange street.

INTERESTING DIRECTORY.

(From Albion's Earliest Press.)

NOBLE COUNTY STAR—January 29, 1850: (From Albion's first newspaper:) New goods by Hitch-

cock & Clapp, December 1, 1849; Saddles and harness, by J. J. Helm, July 3, 1849; Ploughs, by William F. Engle, October 10, 1849; County orders received for produce at 75 cents on the dollar; Lyons & Wildman, tailoring; H. S. Tousley, attorney-at-law; Reuben J. Dawson introduced bill in legislature to authorize Ft. Wayne & Lima Plank Road Co. to run a road to Albion; T. Beecher, postmaster; A. C. Jaquays, wagons and buggies, August 25, 1849; Fanning mills by J. J. Bruner, 1849; 5,000 bushels ashes wanted by J. C. Cox; Dr. T. Beecher, druggist; J. C. Cox purchased Samuel Clymer's stock dry goods, etc., and will take in exchange rags, feathers, beeswax, tallow, hides, wheat, corn, oats, flaxseed, cranberries, ginseng and ashes; George Storey, wood merchant.

WILLIAM H. AUSTIN, Publisher.

ALBION OBSERVER—August 8, 1850: E. A. Spencer, tailor; Cabinet and chair factory, J. J. Bruner; A. P. Warner, assistant postmaster, July 1, 1850. (August 22)—Editorial: "We wish to call attention also to the fact that our village is infested with hogs and overrun with cattle and horses, that roam at pleasure through the streets, and make their nightly rendezvous upon the public square." The Albion House, by George Crowl, jr., formerly occupied by I. Swarthout, August 1850. (September 12, 1850)—Original tale of

"The Stolen Manuscripts," by Fanny Westleigh; "the Mexican ladies have the smallest and best formed ankles ever seen." James W. Cox has located for the purpose of practicing medicine and surgery.

ALVORD & KING, Publishers.

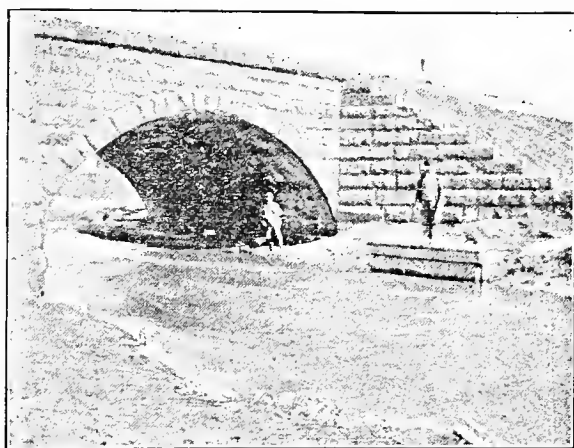
NOBLE COUNTY HERALD—January 11, 1861: Mansion House, J. R. Sloan, proprietor; Dr. Charles Woodruff, Port Mitchell; N. Teal & Co., druggists; Delivan lodge, I. O. of G. T., Rev. J. P. Nash, W. C., S. W. Camp, W. S.; William McClelland, gunsmith; Worden House, by G. E. Worden; Tenant House, by C. Grafmiller; John R. Smith, saddles and harness; Boots and shoes, R. J. Harkins; A. Fulton, cabinet-maker, mechanic's block; Meeting at Lutheran church for relief of Kansas, Rev. Blanchard, president; M. H. Kimmell, hardware, etc.

RANDALL & STARNER, Publishers.

THE ADELPHIA—October 16th, 1875: William Trump, dry goods; W. W. Johnson, J. P.; Askew & Miller, custom mills; Prentiss & Landon, dry goods; Thomas D. Evans, attorney; S. T. Ward, boots and shoes; Ed Engle, livery; N. Sessions, dentist; W. R. Henderson, tonsorial artist; C. Z. Bidwell, groceries; Baldwin & Olds, dentists; Ben Ramsey, cigars; Frederick Buettner, clothing; A. Fulton, furniture; Cotton & Co., meat market; T. S. Comparet, R. E. agent; Mrs. E. Roof, mil-

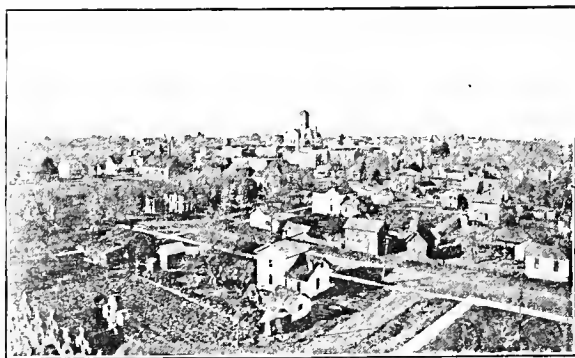
linery; John C. Haney, blacksmith; R. J. Harkins, boots and shoes; Levi F. Gault & Co., butter, eggs and poultry; John Frost, real estate; W. H. McMeans, music dealer; P. A. Sunday, harness, etc.; W. Y. Leonard, M. D.; Stewart & Foster, groceries; C. B. Dice, bakery and lunch room; Brillhant & Bassett, meat market; F. T. Isbell, boots and shoes; W. R. Knox, machinery; J. B. Leslie, conservatory of music.

GEORGE W. ROOF, Manager.



B. & O. RAILROAD CULVERT.

This structure spans the Lewis Branch near the site of the first sawmill erected by Mr. Spencer, in the early Forties. The mill furnished lumber for the old court house and other early frame buildings.



Birdseye View of Albion, Looking Northwest.

ALBION—HER FIRST DECADE.

PART III.

COURTS, JUDGES AND ATTORNEYS—INCORPORATION OF ALBION—
POPULATION AND INCREASE OF WEALTH—STATISTICS—THE
EARLY SCHOOLS—EARLIEST RESIDENTS—EARLY BUSINESS
MEN—PYROTECHNICS—HON. WILLIAM M. CLAPP—DE-
STRUCTION OF FIRST BRICK BLOCK—EARLY HOTELS
—FIRST STEAM THRESHER—POTTERIES, ETC.

We make honorable mention of the following old-time attorneys and judges who made the halls of the old court houses ring with their eloquence—and whose oratory, we beg pardon, has never been excelled in later years.

EARLY JUDGES OF CIRCUIT COURT.

Charles W. Ewing	James L. Worden
John W. Wright	Judge Chase
E. R. Wilson	Robert Lowry
R. J. Dawson	James W. Borden
E. A. McMahon	James I. Best
Robert McBride	Hiram S. Tousley
William M. Clapp	James M. Denny
Joseph W. Adair	

PROBATE JUDGES.

H. R. Burnam	H. M. Slack
Harrison Wood	

COMMON PLEAS.

Stephen A. Wildman	James C. Bodley .
S. J. Stoughton	

ATTORNEYS.

Hon. James L. Worden	Fielding Prickett
Moses Jenkinson	J. W. Ninde
Hiram S. Tousley	David H. Colerick
John W. Dawson	Ex-Governor Wallace
Ex-Governor Samuel Bigger	John H. Baker
William Coombs	John Morris
Stephen A. Wildman	Thomas M. Eells
Vincent C. Mains	William M. Clapp
Samuel E. Alvord	Nelson Prentiss

and others

The increase of wealth and population of our county as well as Albion, proves a matter of considerable interest. The population of Albion township and town, before the latter's incorporation in 1874, was, by the census of 1870, put down at 430; in 1880, it had raised to 926; in 1890, 1,300; and in 1900, about 1,600. The valuation of property in Albion, 1891, was \$464,480.

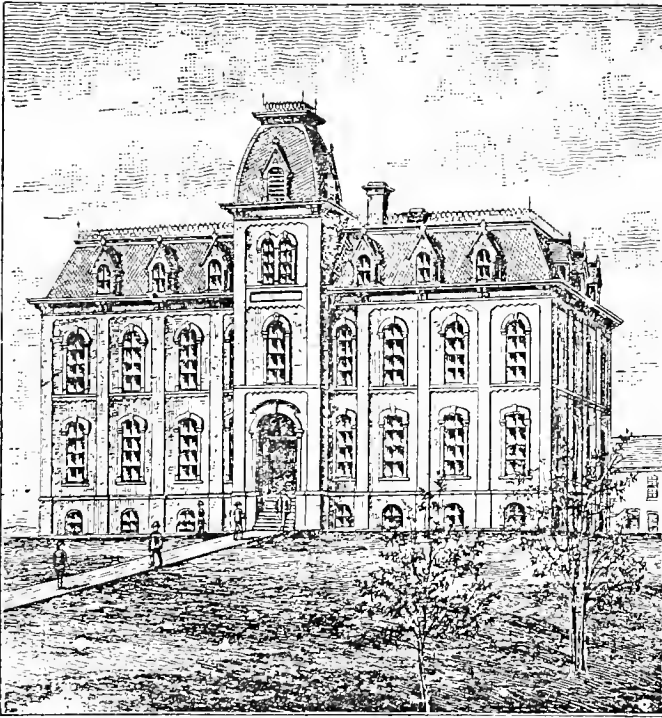
In the county statistics the capital employed in 1870 was \$334,408; hands, 388; establishments, 93; products, \$651,645; improved lands, acres, 92,467; assessed value of real estate, \$3,648,000—number of acres, 268,800.

The taxable property valuation was

In 1843—\$ 558,386.	Polls 611
1860—\$ 2,881,594.	Polls 2362

1870—\$ 4,702,445.	Polls 3318
1880—\$ 8,295,625.	Polls 3704
1891—\$15,320,218.	Polls 4263

THE ALBION SCHOOLS.



The first school in Albion was taught by Ephraim Walters in 1847-8. There was no public moneys to pay teachers until about 1852; all salaries were paid by private subscriptions. In 1849 a small

frame building was erected near the then residence of Hon. Nelson Prentiss. In the late 'fifties a frame building, with one story and one room, was located in the block on which stands the Methodist church, in which, among other teachers, Josephus S. Tam taught the young ideas how to shoot, and promulgated some doctrines of physical geography and philosophy which were wholly at variance with the text-books of that day.

In 1863 a two-story frame (now removed and occupied by Alva Hostetter as a livery barn) was erected east of Mr. Croft's residence, at a cost of \$1,500. This was used as a school house until 1876. The present building was then erected at a cost of \$17,000. The late Merritt C. Skinner, an able educator, was the first principal. He was, at one time, clerk of the Noble circuit court. In 1880 he was succeeded by Henry S. Bortner, also a bright, deep thinker and mathematician. He was afterward elected to the office of county surveyor, and held that office during the inauguration of the county ditch law. He was succeeded by H. G. Haggett in 1881, and he by W. E. White. The high school graduates of the class of 1884—the first to come forth from the organization, were: Miss Lilly Lemmon, Mary Markey, Mary B. Vermilyea and Ada M. Freeman.

Some of the earliest residents of Albion may be found in the following list:

Samuel T. Clymer

John McMeans

Isaac Swarthout	Jerry Low
Nelson Prentiss	Harry Smith
Samuel Morris	William M. Clapp
Harrison Wood	David B. Harriman
Damon P. Coffinberry	——— Hardenbrook
W. A. Kuhn	Frederick Acus
Stephen A. Wildman	——— Spencer
Mr. Miller	Benjamin Frazure
Rev. Blanchard	Hiram S. Bradley
C. B. Phillips	James M. Denny
James C. Stewart	
Dr. Clark	——— Jaquays
Elijah Wright	Henry Bowman
Michael Kuhn	Jacob Bowman
——— Washburn	H. S. Tousley
Israel Lantz	Dr. S. H. Lemmon
Dr. Wheeler	Eli B. Dice
Jacob Walters	D. E. A. Spencer
Dr. Leonard	Dr. Dunshee
M. H. Kimmell	Joseph Kimmell
H. H. Hitchcock	V. C. Mains
W. F. Engle	J. J. Bruner
John Gappinger	——— Pepple
——— Monroe	Dr. S. L. Cook
——— Campbell	T. M. Eells
Isaiah Herron	L. G. Worden
Jerome Herron	Scott Worden
Levi Thomas	F. A. Black
William McClelland	Owen Black
W. W. White	Henry J. Tenant

Washington Weaver	Christian Grafmiller
John H. Ward	Emma J. Douglas
R. J. Harkins	A. J. Kimmell
Pierce Haney	William T. Kimmell
Michael Beck	——— Kammerer
S. K. Konkle	Samuel E. Alvord
Sol Starner	H. W. Baldwin
John W. Bryant	Fielding Prickett
William T. Kinsey	David S. Simons
George W. Roof	C. H. Skeels
J. S. Tam	Alex Fulton
Joseph Kimmell	——— Deeter

The only persons now living in Albion who were residents in the 'fifties are:

Fred Acus	James M. Denny
Mary A. Acus	Mrs. Love
Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Sunday	Mrs. S. Morris
Dr. S. W. Lemmon	Charles M. Clapp
C. B. Phillips	J. D. Black
Mrs. A. E. Worden	Charles Haney
Mrs. William Trump	Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Roof

Among the earliest merchants were Clymer & Miller and William M. Clapp. The first hotel, known as the Worden House, northeast of the public square, was built by James Skinner's daughter's second husband. The first landlord was Jerry Low. Michael Kuhn was also an early landlord, with his son Washington as clerk. The American House south of the court house, built by Isaac Swarthout, was afterward owned by Henry J. Tenant, an eccen-

tric southern gentleman who was in the mercantile business in the south and failed. His private apartment in the hotel was furnished peculiar to his own taste. A large upright musical clock which performed a variety of selections, besides keeping time, was a favorite.

The Mansion House was a busy place in 1857-8, located near the Trump brick business block. The proprietor was Eli B. Dice, who afterwards was appointed superintendent of the county infirmary. The Mansion House burned down a little later. The Bradley House, by Hiram Bradley, north side court square, did an excellent business for several years.

One of the early industries was a pottery, established by Elijah Wright. The plant was located directly north of the John McMeans property on East Main street. Mr. Wright was succeeded by Mr. McMeans. Not far from this pottery was also established, directly west of Mr. Sunday's residence, an ashery for the manufacture of black salts by Mr. Spencer. The building was still in existence in 1857, though active business had ceased.

On the southwest corner of York street and the B. & O. railway crossing, was erected in 1880, by the Herron brothers—Isaiah and Jerome—a saw-mill. As such it was used for about three years; then it remained idle a couple of years. The property passed into the hands of Jerome Herron, who sold it to the late Richard Campbell, who established

it as an ashery. Mr. Campbell conducted the business at intervals for some ten or twelve years with considerable profit. The site is an excellent one located as it is directly on the railroad and York street, and a never failing spring of water on the corner which is available for manufacturing purposes. It was blown down in June, 1897.

From an interview with a Mr. Greene, who, in 1901, lived at Auburn, Ind., we learned that he was at one time a resident of Jefferson township, and later of Albion. In 1871 he introduced the first steam thresher in Noble county, and did threshing for many farmers. We were glad to also learn that Mr. Greene is a lineal descendent of General Nathaniel Greene of revolutionary fame. The General was his great-great-grandfather. The historian says that "next to Washington, General Greene was by far the ablest soldier of the Revolution," which of itself is a high compliment. Mr. Greene was then a gray-bearded man and not less than 70 years of age, but was soldierly straight and physically active.

Mr. Joseph Kimmell, whose age at time of death in November, 1907, was 80 years, and who had resided in Albion, was a settler in Noble county in 1849. He was a tinsmith and coppersmith by trade, and established that business in the new county seat in the 'fifties, being the first manufacturer of tinware in Noble county, occupying a part of the large square two-story frame building, east side of

court square, known as Mechanic's block. He was succeeded in business by his son, William F. Kimmell.

Edward Campbell, who died in 1900 at his home in York township, was 98 years old. He claimed to be the oldest living settler in Noble county. He first settled in Port Mitchell in 1846.

Jacob Boszor, of Lisbon, in January, 1908, was living at the age of 98 years—his birthday occurring December 28, 1907—being the oldest living settler in Noble county. We are not informed of the date of his settlement.

William E. Bowen, who settled in Noble county in 1837, became an early county official and resident of Albion, holding the office of sheriff four years and that of treasurer four years.

Among the early residents who carried on business requiring skilled labor, we make honorable mention of Benjamin Frazure, whose death occurred in Albion, February 8, 1907, at the advanced age of 86 years. He settled in Albion in 1852, and established a cooperage business on East Main street. He had the honor of manufacturing the first barrel in the new town. He was still doing business in that line in 1857-8. Prior to this date himself and brother, John, established a match factory, and for awhile made the old-fashioned "lucifer."

Caleb W. McMeans was born in Port Mitchell in 1842, when that town was the seat of justice. He removed to Green township and then returned;

but afterwards became a resident of Albion, where he entered into business in the 'fifties, doing a tin-smith and coppersmith business. At present he is a successful merchant in hardware goods at Brimfield.

The large square two-story frame building called "Mechanic's block," which has been referred to, and which stood directly east of the court square, was still doing business in 1860, and even later. When the writer came to Albion in 1857, Mr. Alex Fulton occupied the rear part of the building and was doing a good cabinet and turning business. The Noble County Democrat occupied the upper south rooms and did a general newspaper and jobbing business. Mrs. McDougall, the widow of Gregory McDougall, occupied a suit of rooms in the second story on the north side in 1858.

Damon P. Coffinberry was an early boot and shoe manufacturer, located between Clapp's store and the Tenant house. He was succeeded by John H. Ward, afterward associated with his brother, Simon T. Ward. John was the best whistler in the old town, as well as a first-class boot maker. During a Fourth of July celebration in 1856 or 7 he was superintending the fireworks display in the evening on an elevated platform in the east part of the court square. The sky rockets, Roman candles and other pyrotechnic goods were placed in two boxes on the platform. During the progress of the display fire communicated with the combustible goods, and a

terrific explosion ensued. The structure was demolished and the men thrown to the ground, Mr. Ward receiving injuries which rendered him a cripple for life.

There are few towns which started in the early time but what can point with interest to some log cabin relic, and Albion has at least one at this late day. The old Tousley house, corner Liberty and East Main street, occupied by Dr. W. F. Carver, was one of these built by Mr. Washburn, a brother-in-law of Mr. Call. It was remodeled in later years. But one now stands, northwest of the public square, owned by the Alvords. The exterior is remodeled but the interior still retains its hewn logs.

A tannery was established in the 'fifties by John Gappinger, and conducted for a number of years with considerable profit to himself and satisfaction to his numerous patrons. It was located on the property now occupied by Dr. T. C. Green, on East Main street. The business was succeeded by his brother, Frederick. Both gentlemen made a success of the business—the latter brother retiring from active life several years later and becoming a life-long and honored citizen of Albion. His brother John, his senior, upon retiring, went to Kendallville, where he established himself as a leather and hide merchant. He died in that city in 1893.

None were earlier identified with Albion's interests than Judge William M. Clapp. He was born December 18, 1817, in Ellington, Conn. His first

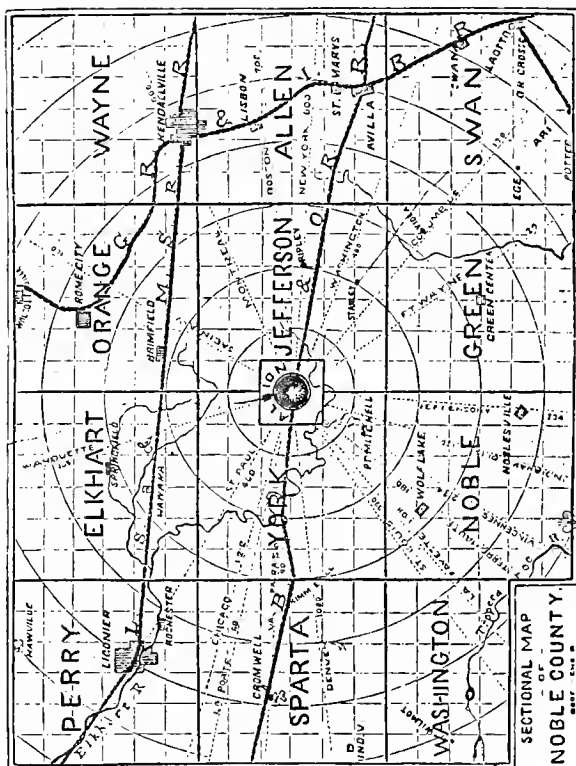
advent into Noble county was at Augusta, as an attorney, in April, 1843. From thence he followed the county seat in its removal from Augusta to Port Mitchell in 1844. From thence he removed to the new Albion as soon as the new county seat was fully established in 1847. Mr. Clapp was elected auditor in 1845, holding the office five years. He had been instrumental in the removal of the seat of justice to Albion. In 1848 he entered into a co-partnership with H. H. Hitchcock in the mercantile business at Albion and continued until 1849; when the business was conducted by himself until 1868, and formed a co-partnership with C. B. Phillips. In 1873, W. W. White became a member of the firm. Afterwards the firm erected a three-story brick block, corner Main and Orange streets, which burned down October 7, 1880. He established the first bank in Albion in 1875, which was conducted with the assistance of his sons, Frank and Charles M., the latter gentleman now being at the head of the Albion National bank.

Judge Clapp was a legislator by election in 1856; was elected judge of the Common Pleas court in 1860, and re-elected for thirteen successive years. We find a fitting tribute to his memory in Mr. Alvord's history: "Judge Clapp was the architect of his own success, beginning life's battles unaided by a finished education, destitute of worldly goods, but well stocked with pluck and energy. A great reader and a close observer, with quick perceptions

and broad-minded." He died at the age of 63 years.

Dr. William Clark was probably the first practitioner in Albion. At least he resided in the vicinity in the early 'forties. Dr. D. W. C. Denny was associated with him awhile. Dr. S. W. Lemmon, who settled in Albion in 1856, is the oldest living physician, although having retired from active practice. His age at present is above 78 years.

Among the early photographers was one J. K. Lautzenhiser. Caleb H. Skeels made tintypes for awhile and tinkered clocks and watches. A Mr. Chandler, of Toledo, introduced some new innovations, notably the "ambrotype." Only a single copy was produced, inasmuch as the "negative" was in reality a "positive." The "wet" or collodion process was employed, and the picture on the glass was touched up and rosy cheeks made to reduce old age to a minimum. The "ambrotype" was then matted and securely placed in a plush-lined box with a lid to close up tightly and a hook fastener. They were really artistic, but too costly and liable to break to withstand the cheap negative "dry plate," which soon followed and now is so extensively used.

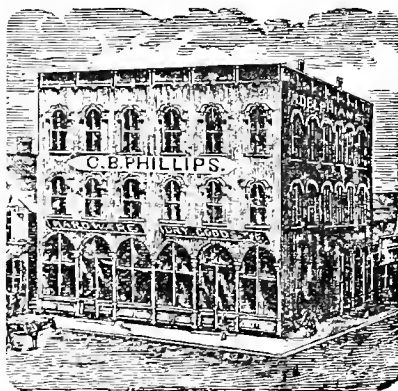


BUSINESS AND EARLY ALBION PRESS.

PART IV.

FIRST BRICK BLOCK—THE PROJECTORS AND OCCUPANTS—DESTRUCTION BY FIRE—THE DRAMA AND SOME OF THE ENTERTAINERS—THE EARLY ALBION PRESS—PRE-EMINENCE AS BIRTHPLACE OF JOURNALISM—INTERESTING SUMMARY.

Not many feet from the majestic oak which reared its proud head in 1846 near the corner of Main and Orange streets, was erected, in 1873-4, the first brick business block in Albion. The



structure was three stories in height, and was proportionately respectable and dignified as to dimensions throughout—being 44x88 feet. In fact it was

an undertaking which none but such enterprising and ambitious business men as were the projectors would consider at that time. Messrs. C. B. Phillips and W. W. White, undaunted by the expostulations of older heads, began its erection under the supervision of Mr. Samuel Broughton and John Pepple, both of whom were well chosen—the former for the brick, and the latter gentleman for the carpenter work. It is needless to say that the work was well done. But before the building was completed the late Hon. William Clapp, who desired to establish a banking business, entered into co-partnership with the young men, and the east rear of the structure facing on Main street was built in accordance with his wishes. The block cost about \$15,000.

A general mercantile business was established in the capacious south room, and a general hardware stock, presided over by Messrs. L. G. Worden & Son, occupied the north room. A spacious stairway led from the north side to the second story, which was utilized for additional store room, and other lines of business. The third floor was finished for public hall and entertainment purposes; and for several years prior to the destruction of this block by fire, October 7, 1880, it had been fitted up and occupied by the Amateur Dramatic company and the Adelphians.

The Adelphians were a dramatic association made up of Albion's best home talent, and was the outgrowth of an organization called the Amateur Dram-

atic Troupe. A copy of the printed by-laws of the Adelphians shows that a permanent organization was effected May, 1875. Following were the charter members: G. W. Roof, general manager; B. S. Ramsey, stage manager; Frank Kimmell, treasurer; John W. Smith, secretary; Asher R. Fulton, ticket agent; J. Ben Leslie, Steve H. Reed, Forest A. Love, Albert Fulton, Alex. Aumond, Arthur Haas, W. F. Warner, J. W. McMeans, Mrs. Nellie Coy, the Misses Mary Kuhn, Emma Kimmell, Lelia Evans, Olive Horner, Leola Saltzgaber. The orchestra was composed of Uncle David Matthews, violin; S. K. Konkle, violin; Al Haney, B cornet; Chauncey Dice, bass viol.

During the existence of the old associations, other members were added, among whom we mention Miss Ocie Mendenhall, John Swett, F. O. Kammerer, the useful German teacher and scene painter.

The late Mr. T. M. Eells was the excellent stage manager of the Amateur Dramatic association. Mr. Ramsey was also a tragedian of no mean pretensions; and long after the Adelphians ceased to appear on the boards. he made professional engagements elsewhere. As Bob Brierly in "Ticket of Leave Man," Mr. Ramsey invariably caught the house. Mr. S. H. Reed, who frequently was cast in a heavy role, rendered excellent satisfaction. Al. Fulton had no equal in Irish comedy, while Forest Love and Frank Kimmell dearly loved a good farce. Smith and Leslie were drawing room familiarities, and they

were always fortunate in drawing the central figures for love making. John Swett as idiot witness in the drama of that name was in rehearsal once too often, which necessitated the manager to change the cast just before the play was rendered. He became disgusted catching flies. Some excellent talent was developed by the ladies, which was duly appreciated by the patrons; but we dare not particularize, fearing that none should get just criticism. Be it said, showers of applause always greeted them. Alex Aumond was the best single-handed property man ever put on the stage. Permit him to read the play once, and our honor as a guarantee, each curtain would rise on time with every article in its place. The familiar title of "Pap" will be recalled by the old members who passed so many happy though laborious hours behind the footlights, when these rambling lines meet their eyes. He will always kindly hold them in remembrance. And when the Adelphians had been reorganized with many new and younger members, after the fire had consumed hundreds of dollars worth of scenery and property which were held dear by the old association, and when many were scattered hither and yon (including "Pap"), he received an invitation to attend and participate in a "Reunion" of the histrionic band at Howard's new opera house, April 24 and 25, 1885. The bill informed us that "Fruits of the Wine Cup" would be on, but we could see but five of the old members. The after-

piece of the "Sausage Makers" by Love and Kimmell was selected. Mr. T. M. Eells was chosen to address the audience and introduce the "Reunion Tableau." Two hundred miles of intervening space and other matters prevented the writer from attending; but the curtain went up, and in that semi-circle of chairs with the footlights gleaming rays of happiness upon some and rays of sadness on others, betokened a disintegrated condition of the original band. Some were occupying the chairs, others were hundreds and thousands of miles away, while perhaps even one or two had passed to the irrecoverable beyond. An absent member feelingly writes:

"With the name 'Adelphians' is associated the many old and tried friends—a little band of faithful workers for improvement and for the public good. Some are here, others there; perhaps you have provided some vacant chairs. If the hand of death like the 'Angel of Midnight' has made one vacant chair, may its mournful decoration serve to remind the auditors that the living members who sit beside it hold still a green and cherished spot in remembrance of the departed."

THE EARLY ALBION PRESS.

(BY THE AUTHOR.)

In glancing over the early press of Albion, we find that all the publishers or editors, with the exception of one or two, have passed away; and but these two are now living residents of Noble county.

Almost all of the supporters of the early press, too, have been cut down by the reaper Death. The reflection is a sad one; because the writer, as an old-time printer, has had agreeable business relations with them all. Our weakness may be excusable when we reflect that not a single one of those named, except one, are now living: Hon. William Mitchell, Hon. H. C. Stanley, Hon. Judge H. S. Tousley, Hon. Judge Randall, Owen Black, S. E. Alvord, Fielding Prickett, Thomas Storey, Jerome Sweet, Capt. Hiram Iddings, Hon. William M. Clapp, Samuel Conlogue, Jacob and Jehu Foster, Christian Foster, F. A. Black, Elihu Wadsworth, D. S. Love, George W. Matthews, Stedman Gray, John Young and a few others. Hon. Abel Barnum is one of the honored living in 1907, at the ripe old age of eighty-six years.

Having once written the popular history of Noble county newspapers, our mission here is only to chronicle, in a sketchy way, the press of Albion from its beginning. Newspapers do not seem to have kept pace with the settlement of the county, as the first one was published in 1849—about thirteen years after the county was organized, and twenty-two years after the first settlement. The paper in Noble county now published, and having the longest continual life from its establishment, is the Kendallville Standard, now about forty-four years old.

It seems strange that the first newspaper of the

county, in early 1849, should have been established at Kendallville, when that town had perhaps less than one hundred souls, and, we believe, before it was platted into a town by William Mitchell. There were other larger, older and more thriving towns whose prospects at that time were very flattering—notably Lisbon, Port Mitchell, Wolf Lake and Rochester. Albion was unheard of three years before, and had an existence only in the forest. But the people had become tired of moving the county seat about upon their shoulders, so at last dropped it down in the geographical center of the county as the only means of “keeping peace in the family,” and getting rid of the elephant.

William D. Austin is the pioneer who established the first Noble county newspaper at Kendallville, called the *Star*—but she had no use for printer’s ink, so the *Star* pulled its feet out of the mud and set them down in the new Eldorado—Albion—’mid the grand oak forest which held high carnival over her “seven hills” like unto Rome, and “in that elder day,” no doubt thought Bro. Austin, “to be an Albionite was greater than a king.” And, like Rienzi, he “came not here to talk,” but to print. He wanted to print the sheriff’s sales, and the non-resident notices, and the delinquent tax sales, and between times solicit subscribers, and print ball invitations and calling cards on a hand press, and get out Fourth of July three-color posters. The *Star* took up quarters in Sam Clymer’s court house which he

built in 1847, and hired William Norton as foreman. Its circulation reached 350 subscribers.

In the winter of 1849-50, Samuel E. Alvord purchased the plant and removed it to private apartments. The Star died, and from its ashes arose the Albion Observer, June 6, 1850, by Alvord & King. Mr. King retired and the Observer continued until December, 1852. James Scott, S. E. Alvord, Jones, Buckwalter, Young, Charley Alvord, Tip Walters and others were attachees at different times.

Then came the Expositor by Mr. Alvord, existing about three months. Following it in 1854 came the Albion Palladium by J. W. Bryant, who was soon assisted by Theo. F. Tidball as a co-partner. This continued with various "ups and downs" until the autumn of 1855. In this year the plant was reorganized with a stock company of democrats, and was published as the Noble County Palladium during the Fremont campaign and then ceased.

Mr. Alvord purchased the office and in February of 1857, the Noble County Democrat was launched on the sea of uncertain journalism. For a short time G. I. Z. Rayhouser, was associated as publisher; then Sol Starner, and John W. Bryant. On the 23rd day of October, 1857, the following document duly signed and sealed, was executed:

"We, the undersigned, stockholders in the press and material of the Noble County Democrat, hereby authorize George W. Roof to take possession thereof, and of the office thereof, and to proceed to publish

said paper. Said Roof is to pay said stockholders at the rate of 8 per cent on the whole cost as rent, or \$48 per year, and to have all the proceeds of said office, and publication, and to pay his own expenses, and to be to all the expense of publishing said paper. And the said George W. Roof hereby agrees to and with the said stockholders to do and receive as above set forth. This agreement to be in force until further arrangements.

"Witness our hands and seals this 23d day of October, A. D., 1857.

JACOB S. FOSTER,	[Seal]
THOMAS STOREY,	[Seal]
OWEN BLACK,	[Seal]
SAMUEL E. ALVORD,	[Seal]
H. C. STANLEY,	[Seal]
J. SWEET,	[Seal]
GEORGE W. ROOF.	[Seal]

Two other stockholders, John Young and F. A. Black, were added to those already given on May 19, 1858, at which time a new lease was given by them to the writer for a period of one year, ending May 19, 1859. All the signers of this document, except the writer, now lie peacefully in their caskets of clay, unconscious of journalistic struggles. We shall ever remember them with kindly spirit.

During these years of 1857, 1858 and 1859 notable events occurred which interested the newspaper man. It was an epoch of "hair-raising," incidents. It will be remembered that scalps were in demand

from the fact that this epoch was the wind-up of blacklegery in Northern Indiana, and particularly in Noble county. It was a time when the sword was mightier than the pen. There were no telegraph liars in those days to distort facts and manufacture sensationalism. The early press did not need their aid—bare facts alone filled the bill of fare. The thrilling adventures of the regulators with the organized outlaws served to spice the columns of the old "Democrat" in the woods.

A ridiculous and serious misunderstanding which came near resulting tragically occurred with a patron and friend of the Democrat at Rome. The gentleman was a tradesman there, while his wife was conducting a millinery business. The writer was standing in the threshold of the stairway leading up to the Democrat office in the old two-story building east of the court house. The gentleman was on his way home and hurriedly accosted me with, "I want you to advertise my wife" and drove on. I was not aware that his wife was in business and at once concluded that the twain had separated. When I reached the sanctum sanctorum, with pen in hand, the following copy was soon ground out: "Whereas, my wife, ——, has left my bed and board without just cause or provocation, this is to notify all persons not to trust her on my account, as I will pay no debts of her contracting," etc. The advertisement was printed as written, and soon circulated in Rome. The editor sat in his easy chair the next

day dreaming of hen-pecked husbands and wondering if marriage was really a failure, when the sound of heavy and hurried footsteps was heard on the stairway leading up to the office. The door was suddenly thrown open, and to my surprise there stood my friend, mad as a wet hornet. He approached me and in thundering tones demanded an explanation. I stopped dreaming at once and tried to pull myself together, with but little success. The situation for a few minutes was quite alarming, but at last a compromise was effected by convincing him that it was all a misunderstanding. I have been connected with many ludicrous and serious affairs in the printing office, but none which I so much regretted as this one. This man and his wife were respected citizens and as I learned had always been agreeable partners in matrimony, and when the notice was made public in their vicinity through the Democrat the reader can surmise what must have been the result.

The Democrat was printed on a Foster hand press, one in which the platen remained stationary while the bed containing the forms was raised to it by means of the knuckle joints and levers underneath, to make the impression. The white paper on which it was printed was obtained from Beardsley Bros.' mill at Elkhart and some from Fort Wayne from the warehouse of Mr. Hill. An occasional lot of job stock came from the office of the Toledo Blade. From Elkhart the bundles of paper were shipped

via Air Line railroad to Wawaka, thence to Albion by horse power over corduroy bridges and occasional mudways. These trips were not always the most serene. I remember one of them distinctly. It was in the spring when the low places in the road through the swamps stood knee-deep in water and the narrow corduroy was barely peeping above the surface. Wawaka with its few houses was, like myself, floundering in mud and water. I was driving home from there with horse and buggy heavily freighted with three or four bundles of print paper and while crossing one of these narrow corduroy bridges at dusk I was suddenly confronted by a solitary horseman. There was not room on the bridge for us to pass comfortably. The horse and buggy could not be turned around and the horseman would not; so, for a short time it looked as if a second "Rhoderic Dhu and Fitz-James" affair would come off. Expostulations were of no avail so the horseman made a break to pass. He succeeded, but his horse caught a hind wheel of my buggy and broke the axle. For a few moments the air was blue with words that were not strictly of a religious character. Time was short till dark, but a small pole tied under the broken axle to drag behind, got me out of the woods, but the wheel was left behind. The event, as luck would have it, furnished a good item for the next issue of the Democrat.

I was boarding at the Mansion House, kept by Eli Dice, on the site where now stands the Trump

brick business block on Orange street, during the trial of a party brought to Albion from LaGrange county by the regulators on a serious charge which, had there been evidence produced to convict him, would have furnished a most sensational write-up for this "neck o' woods." The accused roomed with me on the night before the examination. At retiring time I was amazed when he disrobed to discover that he was a walking arsenal. A brace of revolvers were laid upon the table, after which a spirited rehearsal of the arrest and facts connected therewith took place. When he had finished he involuntarily clutched the murderous looking weapons and exclaimed: "I am an innocent man, and the first witness who on tomorrow falsely swears against me is a dead man!" Somehow or other I felt pretty good the next day when it was known that my roommate had proven himself innocent and that his honor and honesty had been vindicated even in those days of excitement and thrilling adventure.

While the Democrat period comprised the years in which the most sensational state of affairs existed in the county, much of it was suppressed from publication for reasons of public good. Up to the close of the career of this paper in early 1859, the outlawry which existed furnished much of this sensational matter. When the famous outlaws, Hill and Wilson, escaped from jail on the night of March 5, 1859, not only were the most cunning and greatest of criminals in northern Indiana set free, but also

was the work of the struggling yeomanry—who had banded themselves together for public good—at an end. The hanging of McDougall had sounded the death-knell of early outlawry, and the 3,000 citizens comprising the membership of the Regulators of Northern Indiana rested from their labors, and the country entered upon a new era of prosperity.

The struggling pioneer paper now gave way to a newer order of things, and after the further publication of the Democrat in a new series, by E. L. Alvord of New York, for a period of four months, from September to December, 1859, the Noble County Democrat as a newspaper finally became defunct.

In the latter part of 1860 Joshua R. Randall purchased the material of Mr. Alvord and began the publication of the Albion Herald. On July 1, 1867, W. F. & A. J. Kimmell started the Albion Advertiser—a three-column folio—in which a series of articles on the history of Albion written by Hon. Nelson Prentiss were published. It was discontinued the following year, and C. O. Myers, of Kendallville, purchased the material.

Albion was without a newspaper from 1868 until the fall of 1872, when the demands for one were so urgent that S. E. Alvord was again induced to enter the field. After himself and daughter Lillian (now Mrs. Ed. Engle) had, with a few fonts of type and a Boston Novelty press, issued the initial numbers of a small sheet under the significant name "New

Era," Mr. Alvord contracted with the writer of these sketches to superintend the culture and development of the infant into mechanical manhood. It soon attained such character and circulation as to necessitate the purchase of a large Fairhaven cylinder press. In 1875 its circulation had swelled to 1,200. The New Era was independent in politics until January, 1876, when it was purchased by Prickett & Starr, who made it a republican paper. In April, 1878, Jacob P. Prickett succeeded his partner. On September 23, 1895, J. E. Buchanan of Dekalb county, purchased the New Era, from whom E. L. Adair purchased, and at present is editor and proprietor.

The Kendallville Review was established in 1881 by William P. Fischer. It had an erratic existence there, and in September, 1882, was moved to Albion and its name changed to the Albion Review. In February, 1883, James J. Lash took charge of the paper and changed its name to the Noble County Democrat. Thus originated the present paper of that name. In the early spring of 1887, S. E. Alvord purchased the Democrat and moved it into the building at the northwest corner of the public square. H. L. Askew, now city editor of the Fort Wayne Daily Sentinel, set the first type in the Democrat's new building. In 1893, Henry C. Pressler became proprietor and in June, 1894, he sold the plant to O. H. Downey who remained its proprietor until January, 1897, when it was sold to Pressler & Mc-

Ewen. The latter gentleman soon became sole proprietor and is at present the editor and publisher.

Albion is justly celebrated for having been the real birthplace of journalism in Noble county.

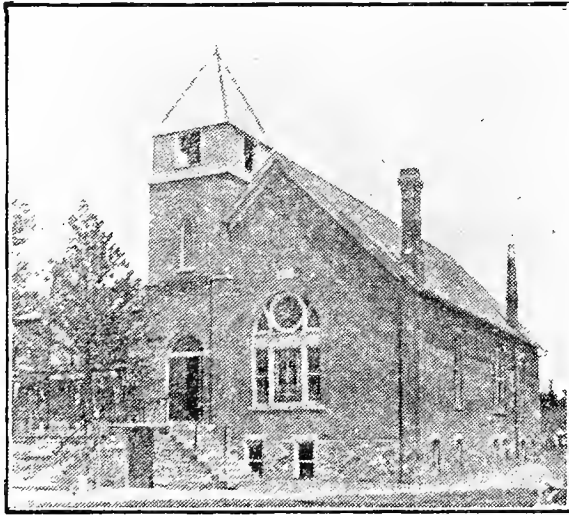


ALBION CHURCHES.

PART V.

ORGANIZATION OF CHURCH SOCIETIES—FIRST AND PRESENT PASTORS
CHARTER MEMBERS—CHURCH EDIFICES, COST, ETC.—
WORSHIP IN COURT HOUSE—COURT HELD IN
CHURCH—AUXILIARIES—INCIDENTS.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL.



The Methodist Episcopal denomination became an organized religious society in the autumn of 1847. The members worshipped in the first frame court

house until 1855, after which they occupied the Lutheran church until 1875. Rev. Silas Stout was the first pastor. During the pastorate of O. S. Harrison, Albion became a station in the Noble circuit. At the revival of 1882 the membership increased from 50 to 160.

The pastors from the beginning are: Silas Stout, 1847-8; Emanuel Hall, 49-50; Charles Ketcham, 51; William Blake, 52; D. B. Clary, 53; M. M. Hun, 54; S. W. Camp and Barnett, 55; J. H. Hutchison, 56-7; William Palmer, 58; J. P. Nash, 59-60; I. Ayers and Thomas Sell, 61; W. T. Barnard, 63; J. M. Mann, 64; J. S. Sellers, 65-6; H. L. Nickerson, 67; J. W. Smith, 68-70; William Comstock, 71-2; W. B. Graham, 73; C. H. Wilkinson, 74-6; James Greer, 77-9; J. W. Smith, 80-1; W. S. Stewart, 82-4; M. S. Marble, 85-7; O. S. Harrison, 88-90; A. S. Preston, 91; H. M. Johnson, 92; C. W. Wilcox, 93-5; F. F. Frech, 96-7; C. H. Murray, 98-01; George H. Kemp, 02-03; L. E. Knox, 04-8.

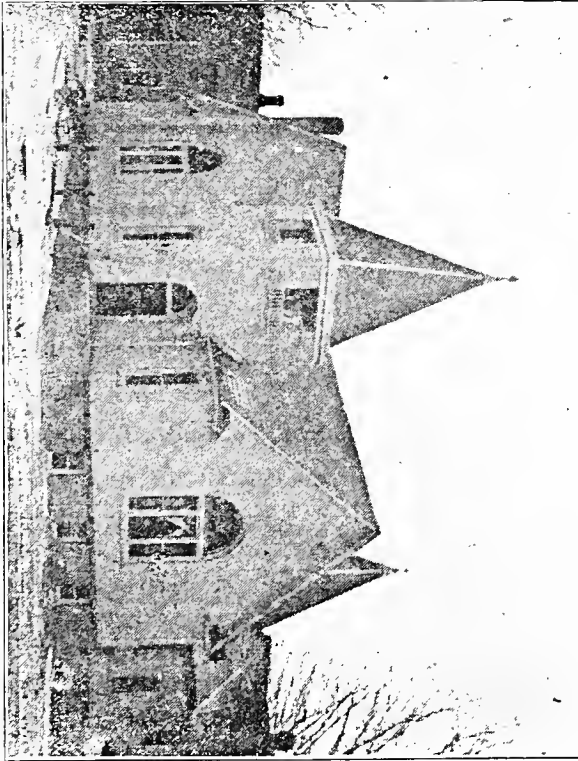
The present handsome edifice, a picture of which is here shown, was erected in 1898, at a cost of \$4,300. It was dedicated June 4, 1899, by Rev. W. D. Parr, of Fort Wayne.

The erection of the old church, on whose site was reared the present structure, was mainly built through the herculean efforts of the hands and brains of Rev. C. H. Wilkinson. It was dedicated in December, 1875.

The auxiliary societies are its Sunday school, the

Epworth League, Junior League, Ladies' Aid society
and Woman's Home Missionary society.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN.



The first church society was that of the Evangelical Lutheran, which was organized in April, 1848, by Rev. Jacob Seidel. The first members were Philip Bowman and wife, David Bucher and wife (parents of Mrs. P. B. Bassett and Mrs. M. H. Kim-

mell), Henry Bowman and wife, Stephen Pratt and wife, James Pepple and wife and Abraham Hosler and wife.

The pastors have been Rev. G. A. Exline, J. Seidel, G. Walker, R. L. Delo, J. H. Hoffman, J. N. Barnett, J. Boon, — Sink, William Waltman, W. H. Keller, B. F. Stultz, E. W. Erick, O. W. Bowen, Jabez Shaffer. D. F. Kain is the present pastor.

This society erected its first house of worship in 1855. The old building has been lowered to grade and the structure has been greatly remodeled since and almost entirely rebuilt, and entirely refurnished; and today is among the finest churches of the city and county.

The old building was used as a court room after the burning of Albion's court house. Here it was that the late Samuel E. Alvord preached a religious sermon upon his own previous announcement, which, we have been told, was a credit to pulpit oratory.

(Rev. D. F. Kain, after a protracted illness, passed away February 3, 1908. He was one of the old pastors of this church, and was the present pastor at time of death.—ED.)

PRESBYTERIAN.

The First Presbyterian church of Albion was organized on the 16th of December, 1848, by Revs. E. Bascom and A. H. Kerr. The charter members were Erastus Spencer, Amanda M. Spencer, Adaline Wade, William Crispell, Sarah Crispell, Cath-

arine Coon, Andrew Woodward, Polly A. Bassett, Lucia Bassett, E. M. Wright, Abigail Wright and Isaac Arnold. William Crispell was made ruling elder. The accessions to the church have been gradual. The present membership is sixty-five, and the average, since 1848, about forty. Services



were first held in the first court house, but later in the Lutheran church, towards the construction of which the Presbyterians contributed several hundred dollars. The present Presbyterian church was constructed during portions of the years 1875 and 1876. The total cost, including the furnishings and the land, was about \$7,100. The work was begun in

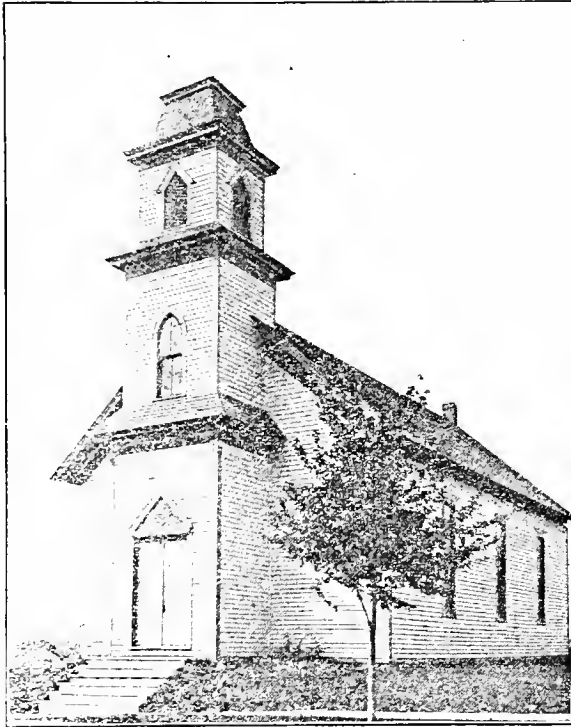
August, 1875, and the house was dedicated November 12, 1876, by Rev. James Pollock, of Tiffin, Ohio. The ministers who have served the church are as follows: Revs. E. Bascom, Mr. Snyder, William Boner (about eight years, beginning in 1851), Charles A. Munn, S. V. McKee, J. P. Moore (from near the close of the war until about 1877), George Walter Barr, 1881-3; Charles Rice, 1884-5; A. J. Reynolds, 1886-9; M. M. Marchall, 1889-91; S. L. Shirley, 1893-5; Ralph R. Ward, 1896-7; Williamson Dunn Vater, 1898-9; George Applegate, 1900-1; Martin Luther Tressler, 1902-3; Cyrus Alexander Price, September 24, 1904, and is the present pastor.

The church building of late has had a furnace put under it and a cement walk in front, the windows re-leaded, the wook-work painted outside and varnished inside and a new carpet added at considerable expense. The church owns a good Manse property adjoining the church building which has been repainted in the past year and had a substantial addition made to it.

Officers of the church: Session—James T. Johnston, James R. Cole. Deacons—James Matthews, J. T. Johnston. Trustees—Cornelius B. Phillips, Orlando J. Singrey, Abel A. Barnum.

UNITED BRETHREN.

This society was organized about 1867. Its membership has been increased on occasions of revivals and from other sources in the past few years to such



an extent that a larger and more commodious structure was made by enlargement and the interior beautifully refurnished and refitted. The present large roll of membership attests its religious prosperity. Its Sunday school is large and well attended, superintended by earnest and able workers and instructors.

A very pleasant incident is related of the late Henry L. Brown, who was a charter member of the

church organization. Mr. Brown, at an early day, had settled upon the farm south of Albion where he died December 21, 1907. Some fine timber grew upon the farm, and Mr. Brown was clearing it off rapidly with his strong hands. The church society needed a place of worship, so the new minister visited Mr. Brown at his farm and solicited aid for the structure. Not belonging to any church organization, but of a generous disposition to benefit the morals of the community, he said he had some fine large oak trees, and he promised the preacher he would cut them down and have them sawed into lumber to help build the church. This he did; and when worship was held in the new building, Mr. Brown and his wife went and heard the sermons several times. The seed fell upon fertile soil, for soon both become active and conscientious adherents of the faith. From that time until his death he was a constant devotee each Sunday, and at all times, of the church and the Sunday school.

WESLEYAN METHODIST.

It is to be regretted that at present the old records of this society are not to be found; but enough has been gleaned to give somewhat reliable data. It is probable that the organization was effected in 1867 or '78. A juncture of two other circuits or missions were merged into Albion.

Among the earliest preachers were Rev. Jesse Hyatt, succeeded by Rev. Albert H. Hyatt. The



present handsome little place of worship is located at the extreme east end of Main street, a photo-engraving of which is shown. It was dedicated by Rev. Henry West, at the time that Rev. Worth was its pastor.

The late Solomon Franks and wife were charter members. Some of the staunch supporters of this church were the late George Black and wife Emma. An excellent Sunday school is successfully conducted, and is a valuable auxiliary to the church.

The society consists of a most excellent membership, with able gospel teachers, and a prosperous future in church work.

° ROMAN CATHOLIC.

Albion was formerly a mission of Avilla. The church of the Sacred Heart, under the special patronage of St. James, was built by Father Duehming in 1875, and was dedicated the same year by Bishop Dwenger on the feast of St. James the greater (July 25). At that time there were twelve Catholic families at Albion.

In 1881 this mission was transferred from Avilla to Ege. Since 1890 it has been attended from Auburn, and at present is in charge of Father J. W. Schmitz.

The cost of the church, including altar and other fixtures, was \$2200.





A Modern Residence, North Orange Street.

BENEFICIAL REFLECTIONS.

PART VI.

INTRODUCTORY—POPULATION, OFFICIAL VOTE AND WEALTH—CITY
GOVERNMENT—ALBION WITHIN—FARMERS AND FREE MAIL—
AFTER THE FIRE—STREETS AND SIDEWALKS—SOCIAL
FEATURES—OUR FUTURE POSSIBILITIES—BENEVO-
LENCE AND SOCIETIES—DESIRABLE BUSINESS
OPENINGS—BUSINESS COLLEGE NECESSITY.

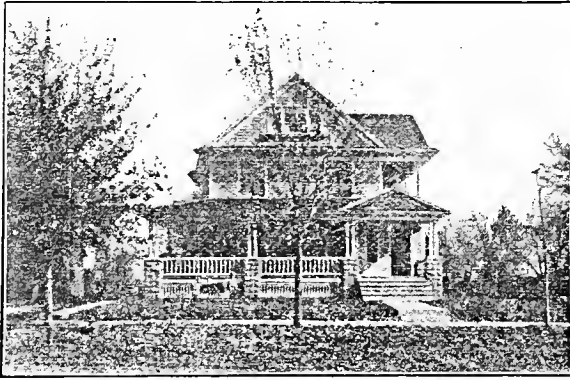
INTRODUCTORY.

Albion never has been so unfortunate as to become paralyzed with what often affects western mushroom towns—a “boom.” Boom towns generally have their origin on paper, stimulated by real estate sharks, and all require a constant “booming” and inflation to keep in them the breath of life and a show of business; until finally many of them pass out of existence, or merely exist spasmodically. While we may not be classed with the “boom” towns, we are happy in presenting the fact that no other town in northern Indiana has, like Albion, almost doubled her population in a decade; and while she has thus augmented the figures of the census report, she has also, with a degree of commendable enterprise, made steady progress and substantial improvements, both in brick business houses and fine residences of modern architectural adornment.

The population of Noble county, in 1870, was 20,389; in 1900 it was 23,533. The official presidential vote of the county in 1904 was 6,628. The first presidential vote was in 1840.

In 1854 Albion township was formed from Jefferson and York; and in 1870 the population of Albion was 476; in 1890, it had risen to 1300. In 1906, the estimated population was placed at 1,600. Thus it will be observed that Albion, as well as Noble county, has made substantial and permanent advancement.

ALBION WITHIN.



Albion is the county seat of Noble county, a county conceded to be the farthest advanced as an agricultural division of the state; and considering its population, in the lead of education, facilities of transportation, and most desirable with regard to health and climatic conditions. Her capital is sit-

uated at the geographical center of the county. The city is lighted with electric lights, has fine streets, good sewerage, water works, (capacity 500,000 gallons a day) and a telephone system connecting through the surrounding country and towns. There are six rural mail routes running out of Albion, giving the farmers daily mail. Its inhabitants are peaceful and law-abiding, with not a saloon in the town. Dramatic entertainments are furnished at the opera house, and a lecture course each winter under the management of the ladies, supplies the needs of the more intellectually inclined. Clubs for social talk, historic and educational advancement meet regularly; teachers' institutes are held at legal intervals, and farmers' institutes are a feature for the promotion of agricultural work. A county horticultural society convenes quarterly among our farmers, whose membership exceeds 340 families. The Pioneer society meets in Albion annually on the first Thursday in June, and a county historical museum has already been established.

Benevolent, fraternal and beneficiary societies are numerous. There are maintained lodges of Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Maccabees, etc. A paid fire department affords excellent protection. The Noble County Telephone company, located at Albion, and financed by home capitalists, with some three or four hundred subscribers, affords easy, prompt and cheap communication. The Bell telephone has also an exchange here. The ladies are

always found foremost in christian, temperance and benevolent work.

The Newhope hospital is centrally located, and is a valuable aid to the sick, or to the unfortunate who may require surgical attention. Trained nurses are always in attendance. The institution is supplied with a complete microscopical and X-Ray laboratory.

The city government is administered by three trustees, one being elected by the people for each ward. A clerk and treasurer also are elected. The marshal is appointed by the board of trustees.

The 1907 Street Fair, from September 11 to 14, with most novel and interesting attractions, and at which were on exhibition the choicest products of our farmers, was one of many entertainments Albion people have furnished. Expensive premiums were awarded, with no entry fee or cost to the exhibitor. Six thousand people were in almost daily attendance, the fair lasting four days. An association has been formed for a continuation of a fair with wider range of interests.

The Albion Improvement association is now a fixed body of workers, its members being composed of business men, clerks, employees, mechanics, laborers, farmers and all who are interested in a Greater Albion and surroundings.

Many have come here and found homes, and are living in our little city and within our immediate country surroundings, amid peace and plenty, among

people who have become famous throughout northern Indiana for their hospitality,—where they enjoy all the privileges of church, school and society.

Remember: Enthusiasm, zeal, ambition, energy, hustle, confidence—these must be in the future the distinguishing characteristics of a GREATER ALBION.

AFTER THE FIRES.

Few persons stop to consider the rapid strides Albion has made since her great fires, which swept out of existence about all the “fire-traps” that menaced her business centers. When Chicago was fire-swept she did not sit down and weep, or move on to some other locality; the situation was by legal and natural right her own. So, when the ashes cooled off a little, they went at it and builded better and stronger; and today she is, with a single exception, the foremost in population and business of all the cities. But Albion, though not comparable in size or business quantity, did not, as did Chicago, borrow money to rebuild, and buy merchandise; her business people put their heads and pocketbooks together, and determined to rebuild, restock, and rejuvenate. The resources were ample; her country backing was not surpassed.

The carpenters, the brickmasons, the artificers—all were set to work, and what was the result? Not a duplicate of its former self, but the rearing of a new and Greater Albion—of magnificent business structures made of brick and stone and iron—indestructible; not half a dozen or a small cluster of

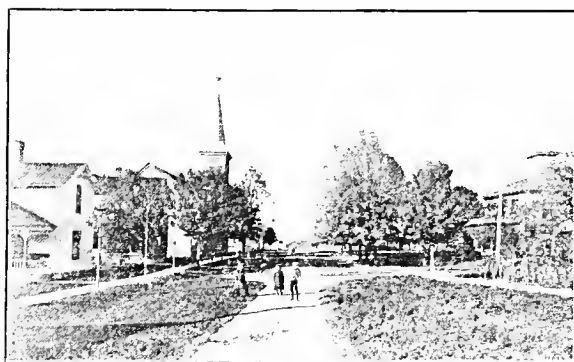
blocks, but the entire business center of the town was made of brick. If we include the court house, jail and both power houses, the actual number now exceeds thirty, in which today the business of the town and the rural districts—together embracing about 150 square miles of contiguous territory—take pleasure in transacting trade.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS.

Various experiments have been made in incorporated towns and cities with streets, many of which, when subjected to practical tests, have proven worthless. Albion has relied upon nature's product, gravel, which abounds in our surrounding hills; it has been put to practical tests, and the results are satisfactory and merely nominal as to expense. The entire city is thoroughly laid with this product, making the cleanest, solidest and smoothest streets to be found in Noble county. The old wooden sidewalks, too, have given way to beautiful and artistically laid cement, which the pedestrian so much admires and enjoys. Street crossings also are constructed of cement and are, like the sidewalks of that material, indestructible. As a matter of reference we give below the names of all our streets.

East and west streets, beginning north—

Jackson	South
Grove	Walnut
Summit	Seneca
Highland	Railroad
Jefferson	Washington



Highland Avenue, Looking West.

Main	Perry
Hazel	Harrison
Gold	Chestnut

North and south streets, beginning east—

7th	Wall	Oak
6th	Owen	Cherry
5th	Calhoun	Meridian
4th	Elm	High
3rd	Hickory	Lafayette
2nd	Liberty	Ogle
1st	Orange	Grace
Orchard	York	Weeks

Albion township, in conjunction with our surrounding townships, has, for some time, been organized for the establishment of good gravel roads in and out of Albion; and today good graded and gravel highways extend into the country in all directions for half a dozen miles or more, which places us in an enviable position, and unsurpassed in competitive facilities. These are undeniable facts and should be heralded far and near.

DESIRABLE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES.

Let us enumerate, in a general way, some of the desirable lines of business that might, with energy and push, and with varied amounts of capital behind them —and none of which requires a millionaire to finance, become successful and be acceptable to the citizens and surrounding country:

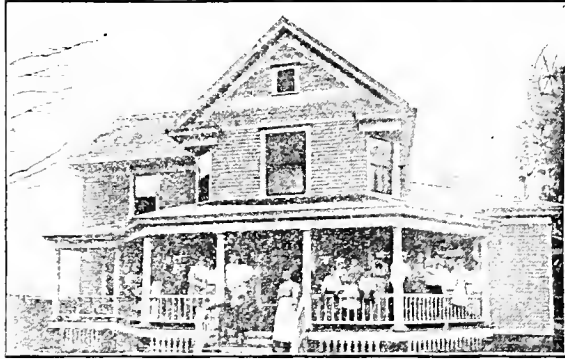
Mittens and Gloves	Brooms and Brushes
Buggy Works	Cigar Factory

Candy Manufacturer	Knitting Factory
Canning Factory	Cooperage
Oil Depot	Starch Works
Toys and Novelties	Cement Manufactories
Book Bindery	Green House and Florist
Cold Storage Plant	Silver and Nickel Plating
Dye Works	Art School
Photo Engraving and Zinc Etcher	

There is no reason why all of these would not be successful. But we desire to name another most desirable and needful for Noble county, located at the county seat—a BUSINESS COLLEGE, in which our young men and women graduates from our high schools may obtain a general business education. The demands are increasing from year to year for colleges which shall teach bookkeeping, penmanship, stenography, telegraphy, typewriting and commercial law. Why send our young people away from home and place them at unnecessary expense? Our rents, our prices for boarding, for necessities of the student, good lights, water and other conveniences are not surpassed in cheapness; we have good health, good society, good churches and places of amusements, with no baleful influences which might entice youths from paths of rectitude. The establishment of a business college may be accomplished by judicious advertising and a careful selection of the faculty.

ALBION'S SURROUNDINGS.

Never was a town so blessed with productive surroundings, such thrifty and intelligent farmers,



good stock, fine residences, industrious and progressive people, as Albion. Every foot of ground, whether low or high, is made productive. Where water once stood may now be seen, each year, waving corn fields, onion fields, peppermint fields and truck crops; while the highlands are made to produce other cereals, and the hills fruitful orchards. Not once in twenty years do we behold a failure of a single crop. All our farmers put out such a variety—our lands being so adaptable—that a single failure does not cripple the average cropper. Even renters of our spare land have, in the majority of instances amassed enough in a few years to enable them to buy farms for themselves.

This is the country where the crops never fail, where blizzards and cyclones do not visit, and where there has never been a drouth in the sense of the western definition. The country is favorable for general farming and stock raising. The facilities

for the shipment of grains, fruits, vegetables and stock are unequaled.

There are many places in the west that are said to be better adapted for some particular crop or kind of stock; but in diversity there is usually a failure. And particularly do we wish to emphasize the fact that generally costly irrigation is necessary; or, water which is obtainable by sunken wells or otherwise by sluggish streams, often cannot be utilized for domestic purposes or for stock on account either of its brackish or alkaline properties. In comparison we refer you to every acre of land within marketable distance of Albion—including our own city—on which the purest never failing and uncontaminated crystal water may be found at varying depths of thirty to one hundred feet.

We show a farm residence, which may be taken as only an average of rural structures. It may be stated that the cost of farm residences surrounding Albion runs from \$1,500 to \$5,000—the majority of them being of modern architecture and conveniences.

OFFICIAL RECORD BY ELECTION.

We present, for valuable reference, a list of officers regularly elected since 1836 to the present time. The list comprises clerk, sheriff, treasurer and auditor.

CLERKS.

Isaac Spencer
Wesley White

James Haxby
Hiram Tousley

William F. Engle	Joseph S. Cox
Nelson Prentiss	M. C. Skinner
Samuel E. Alvord	F. P. Bothwell

George L. Foote

By appointment: H. M. Slack, Fielding Prickett,
L. H. Green, George B. Teal.

SHERIFFS.

James Hostetter	N. P. Eagles
John Humphreys	Richard Williams
M. M. Meriam	W. W. Riddle
Harrison Wood	Samuel Braden
William E. Bowen	George McLean
Isaac Swarthout	Jacob H. Shauck
D. S. Simons	C. C. Simons
Sol Crosby	Harry Bell
Robinson Ramsby	Bert Kimmell
Moses Kiser	William Metz
David Hough	Perry J. Stanley

RECORDERS.

Peter Becker	James Greenman
H. H. Hitchcock	John Baughman
Henry Heltzell	J. J. Lash
John P. McWilliams	John C. Vought
David S. Simons	John W. Miller

A. R. McNair

TREASURERS.

John A. Colerick	John D. Black
John McMeans	George Keehne
William E. Bowen	Julius Lang

Daniel S. Love	Charles K. Greene
James M. Denny	James M. Shew
Lewis Iddings	Thomas M. Reed
Isaac Mendenhall	William E. Worden
James J. Lash	James T. Latta

J. J. Forker

AUDITORS.

Anson Greenman	James C. Stewart
William M. Clapp	William S. Kiser
William E. Lovely	C. B. Phillips
John Young	C. R. Wiley
H. W. Baldwin	James R. Bunyan
Daniel S. Love	Thomas E. Huston
Eden H. Fisher	John L. Henry
John W. Earle	

SUBURBAN ENTERPRISE.

ORIGIN OF SENECA—FIRST SETTLERS—THE FROSTS AND ZELLERS
—JAMES C. STEWART—SENECA HEIGHTS—SAMS' SUBTER-
RANEAN LAKE AND WHAT CAME OF IT—TIFFIN
HISTORY AND HER INDUSTRIES.

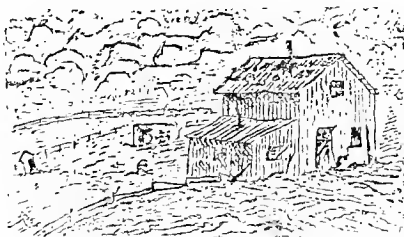
SENECA.

While there has been a notable increase in substantial improvement in the central division of Albion, it is a fact worthy of notice that the suburbs have more than kept pace. An instance is cited of what is called the "South Side," its improvements being located on what was laid out in 1873 by Frost & Zellers, as Seneca Addition, so named from a

county in Ohio, the home of the platters of this suburb.

Previously, on October 15, 1855, William Boner and S. H. Salladay bought the greater part of the south side from John and Sarah Young. Mr. Young conveyed to other parties. Mr. Salladay conveyed a part of his holding to Meshech Frost, September 18, 1873; then he conveyed an interest to Zeller & Frost—after which Seneca was platted. J. C. Stewart purchased part of the tract in 1873-4.

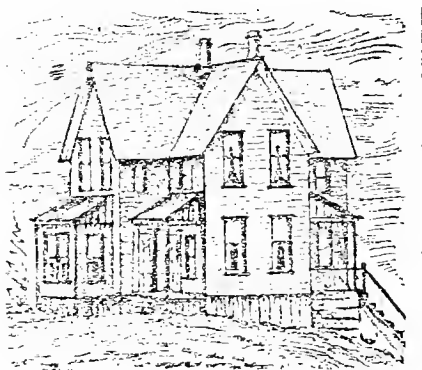
Mr. Boner built a house (presumably log) corner of Railroad and South Orange street, afterward purchased by Mr. Salladay; and all that tract from South street south, and Orange street west, was a farm. The house was probably the first in Seneca, which was afterwards remodeled, and passed into the hands of James C. Stewart. The old house and half a dozen lots are now owned by Mrs. Martha Kinzey.



John W. Gard, in early 'seventy, built the frame house now occupied by George Campbell, on South Orange street, corporate limits. Then came Mr. Nicodemus who built a house on Harrison street.

It passed into possession of other owners; and as late as 1890 the structure, as we here present it, was standing as a disgrace to the enterprise which was manifest at that time in South Albion. A beautiful residence, built by John Lozier, now stands on the same lot, Orange street.

Peter A. Reed purchased a corner on York and Chestnut streets, of James C. Stewart, and at once erected a fine residence. It was sold to Mr. Crandall and then passed into the possession of C. B. Phillips. We present a view of it in zinc etching. The prop-

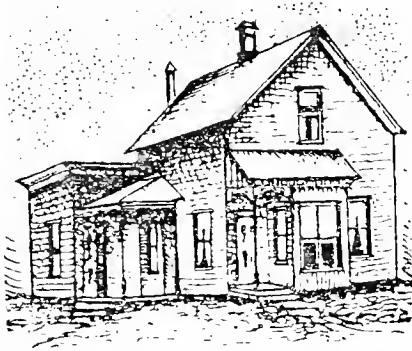


erty was purchased recently by Oscar Pippinger, in 1907. Harrison Coe erected a good residence in 1886-7, west end Harrison street.

In 1888, George W. Roof and wife purchased from J. C. Stewart in Seneca suburb, a half acre on Seneca Heights, South York street. The lots were an open field, with a rail fence surrounding it. A fine cottage was erected on the ground, and im-

provements at once begun. The improvement spirit kept moving along.

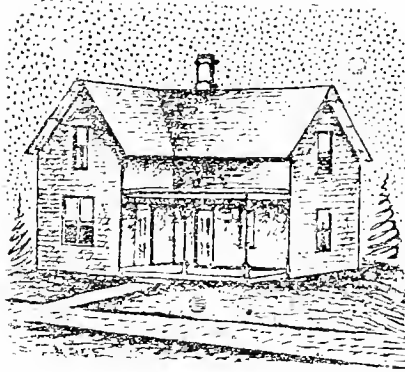
In 1888, Thomas A. Storey erected a fine resi-



dence, corner Orange and Harrison streets. Ross Zimmerman was the architect. When Sylvester Sams purchased Albion's subterranean lake in the 'eighties, he didn't do a thing but go to work and clear off the swamp lying on its peaceful bosom, ditched it, plowed it up and started in truck farming. He also improved South Orange street with a fine residence.

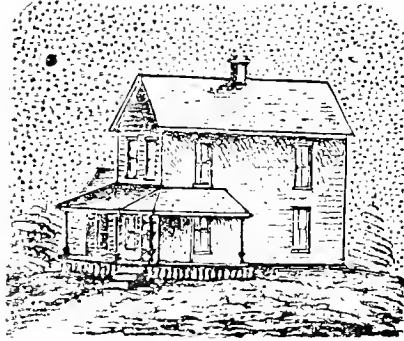
Perry A. Coe, who for many years has been employed as a section laborer, erected, in 1891, a fine residence on York street, a view of which is given. L. J. Evans purchased the property recently, and himself and family occupy it.

Charles F. Haney, also a south sider, learned the blacksmith trade with his father, Pearce Haney, who died an old resident of Albion. It is said of



Charles father that he assisted in placing together the parts of the first locomotive brought from England and actively operated in America. Mr. Haney enjoyed a run on its first trip. Charles F. Haney, who erected in 1885, (William Fuller, architect) the residence here shown, was born November 20, 1848; and is still doing business at the forge. A host of other enterprising persons have erected fine residences; and at present, from two or three families in the beginning, we now have a south side suburb containing from eighteen to twenty families with a population of seventy souls. The remainder of the old farm, platted into Seneca addition, now comprises twenty-two buildings, with about the same number of inhabitants,—or, in all, 140 souls.

On the east side of South Orange street, just south of the B. & O. railroad, lies about six or eight acres of fine factory ground, which, until within a few months, have been in such shape that it could not



be thrown open to public enterprise. Doubtless it now will be utilized for business of some description. The land has been known as the Haney tract.

We wish to add, concerning our suburbs, that the city authorities are keeping pace with streets, crossings, drainage, light and water, and constantly on the alert for a continuance of the health of which Albion is celebrated.

TIFFIN SUBURB.

About the years 1872-3 John F. Frost (for the Zellers and Frosts) of Tiffin, Ohio, purchased the John McMeans farm, or tract, and laid out Tiffin Addition. It comprised all that part of present Albion from East Main street south to the railroad, and from First to Seventh streets. Robert J. Harkins built a modest frame house on the hill, East Main street from the gulley, which was afterward occupied by Sherman J. Hadley and others. Farther east the brick farm house was built by John Mc-

Means on his farm. These comprised, probably, all the residences in what was afterward Tiffin.

The Frosts and Zellers platted the farm into lots and at once began selling them upon the prospective B. & O. railroad construction. Many fine residences now dot the landscape and line the south side of Main street, reaching out as far as the old farm limit; while other portions of the farm are tolerably well populated.

Within the limits of Tiffin are in active operation the Paragon flouring mills and the brick and tile yards of Frank Landgraff—two of Albion's best industries. There are also two churches—the Wesleyan Methodist and Roman Catholic.

FROM HON. JAMES M. DENNY.

EULOGISTIC RETROSPECTION—LABORS OF THE HISTORIAN—SHOULD
STRANGERS WRITE LOCAL HISTORY—VIVID DE-
SCRIPTIONS—ONLY THREE.

(Extracts from Mr. Denny's letter.)

MR. G. W. ROOF,

My Dear Sir:—Yours, in which you do me the honor of requesting me to furnish for "Greater Albion" work a sketch of early times within my Albion recollections, was duly received, and which, but for protracted illness and some prior engagements, would have received earlier attention. I think I have a due appreciation of the importance of your undertaking, and feel that your early and continued

residence in Albion, together with your long, close connection with the newspapers of the town will enable you to give a much more full and reliable history of the town than has heretofore been given by strangers.

A careful estimate of the money and labor expended in raising the town to where it now stands, speaks volumes for the pride and enterprising spirit of its citizens.

The first pen-picture of its location just prior to the establishment of the county seat, which we are now able to recall, is that given during the great county seat struggle by one Adrian B. Miller, then a resident of Ligonier, which we quote from memory:

"To those who are foud of street seclusion,
And hate all business and confusion,
And, hermit-like, would wean away
Their hearts from earth to fast and pray,—
The Center's just the place; for there
No merry sound is on the air,—
No hearty laugh, nor gleesome call,
But a stagnant gloom encircles all."

But while, by no means, are we prepared to fully endorse said gloomy if not frightful picture drawn by the vivid imagination of the learned Ligonier poet, still we feel compelled to admit that the then real appearance of said locality afforded some little pretext for said lofty flights; for it was indeed but little more than a wild, unbroken forest, furnishing perches for innumerable songsters of the grove, and

casting deep shadows o'er long, steep, rugged hills as well as over low, humble valleys, and especially through said poet's fine, costly spectacles, indeed must have presented rather a dismal appearance.

True, with such formidable barriers which nature had thrown across its path of progress, to overcome, the growth of the town has been necessarily slow; but it is consoling to know that its growth has been healthy. And with so many of those barriers already overcome, may it not reasonably be expected that the same spirit of enterprise is "not dead, but only sleepeth," and will, in the very near future, be found to revive and be found reaching out after capital to start enterprises of which the town stands so sorely in need.

I confess to a spirit of a sort of shivering loneliness when the fact is recalled that Mrs. William Trump, John B. Pepple and myself are the only survivors of that first little band of very first settlers of Albion, now residents; and that we are waiting,—

"Only waiting 'till our shadows
Are a little longer drawn."

* * * Wishing you abundant success in your
enterprise,

I am yours truly,

JAMES M. DENNY.

SKETCHES AND REMINISCENCES.

PART VII.

INTRODUCTORY—ALBION'S SUBTERRANEAN LAKE—WHEN STRAW-
BERRIES GREW WILD IN ALBION—ECCENTRIC INDIVIDUALS—
ONE DOLLAR A GALLON—THE BLUE GRASS CUT—STORY OF
A NORWEGIAN—LEWIS' BRANCH—THE LIVING SKELE-
TON—THE SPELLING MATCH—OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

INTRODUCTORY.

Old-time sketches are sure to awaken interest with the early settlers, and keep alive the pleasurable events of past years; beside furnishing the rising generation a valuable adjunct to the more prosaic history of events. It does one good to change the trend of thought from the busy today—it freshens the tired and sluggish memory. We renew old friendships by doing so, whereby the social ties become strengthened.

Every community or neighborhood has its own group of pioneers, be the number more or less, who are desirous of reviving old-time memories and keeping alive the spirit of honest society and truthful friendship.

For this purpose, mainly, is the department of "Sketches and Reminiscences" made a part of our history. The author trusts they will interest the

reader, and assist in deciding a vast deal of accurate data of events.

ALBION'S SUBTERRANEAN LAKE.

Within the corporate limits of Albion exists a subterranean lake, which, like many others in Noble county, was, at one time, an open body of water. The date when this lake closed its eyes upon the light of day, no person living can name; but we are safe in presuming that some of the Pottawatomie Indians angled in our lake. This presumption is verified from the fact that the "oldest inhabitant" declares there are other lakes, now closed, which within their recollection were open, and alive with fish.

During the construction of the Chicago division of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad in 1873-4, the discovery of "sinks" in northern Indiana was of no uncommon occurrence; and many curious facts, such as profuse quantities of small shells and fossilized matter, were in evidence of the existence of many subterranean lakes which gave unmistakable signs of water.

At Albion the company encountered our hidden lake when, attempting to make a "fill" across the swamp west from York street, they discovered each morning that the embankment made during the day had sunken to its original level again. The place was at last "sounded" and found to have a depth of about sixty feet. Tramways from the adjacent hills were at once constructed to the swamp

(which had the appearance of being solid, having been used for more than fifty years for grazing purposes, and portions of it having been cultivated,) and the process of "filling" was begun. When about eight or nine feet of earth was deposited on the line it began to sink, and here and there sections of the road had disappeared. The filling process was continued with a large force of laborers from both sides, and each morning would witness little ponds of water here and there to mark the spot where a hundred car loads of earth had been deposited the day previous. But the work was pushed forward with the determination that it must be filled to secure a solid road bed. For six months this underground lake gulped down hill after hill, until the surroundings appeared as lowly as the heretofore humble swamp; and each week would develop some huge, gaping chasm, or crack formed by the pressure or displacement from below; each succeeding week the great humps of tough peat on either side, assumed loftier dimensions, until the subterranean lake had changed its normal condition, and its wrath had been appeased for thus being disturbed of its peaceful and hermit-like abode of a century or more.

But our sketch is not completed. When the little ponds of water appeared on the surface in the morning, myriads of small minnow-like fishes disported themselves in the released water, as if thankful to be on terra firma again. It may seem strange to some persons for us to say that these fish

were blind; but blind fish have been found elsewhere, under similar circumstances, with one exception, notably at Bryan, Ohio, where they are extraordinarily acute of vision. A close observation of the fish, which were released from the Albion lake, showed the iris encased in a semi-transparent membrane, which rendered them at least partly blind

WHEN STRAWBERRIES GREW WILD IN ALBION.

We take the liberty and pleasure of honoring an old pioneer with a place in our history. We know the extracts given below will grace these pages long after that eternal rest comes which the few early settlers that are left now patiently await. The lines were written by Mrs. Louisa Kline by way of congratulation upon the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Brown in April, 1905. Mrs. Brown is a daughter of William Skeels, who settled near Albion in 1844. Mrs. Brown (Rebecca Skeels) and Mrs. Kline (Louisa Potts) were associates in youth. She writes:

"We were together more when we were girls. If we could meet once more," she says, "we could tell of good times; but now my mind is not so much on this world of care and trials. I sit alone so much and think of the past. You cannot imagine the feeling that is embraced in that expression, 'all alone.' It will be nine years to-morrow (April 15) since I was left alone. It was fifty years the 21st of last

December that I was married to John W. Kline in the old log cabin. My sister, (Mrs. Schaff) and myself are the only ones living now who were present at that time. Oh so many loved ones have passed away in the past few years whom I have known for more than fifty years. I sit alone and think of them. How sweet the remembrance of those whitened heads as we saw them in the house of God, and how sadly we miss them. Our fathers and mothers are gone; we are still here. Our work will soon be done; then comes rest in heaven above where all is love. There will be no sorrow there."

"I well remember having been there when a little girl with my father, Lewis Potts. I think he named that creek. I may be mistaken. I should like to shake hands with one who has lived in one township as long as I have. We came to Jefferson, Noble county, in October, 1836. I have lived ever since in this neighborhood.

"The old log cabin,
The dear old cabin,
The hewed log cabin,
That stands by the spring,—

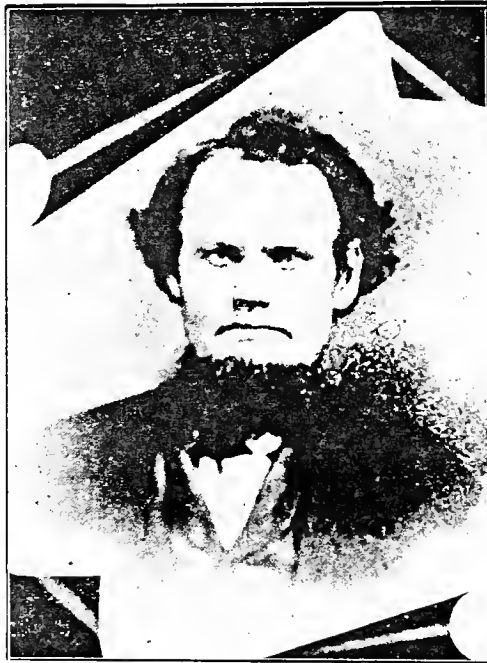
Is standing yet. My father hewed the logs and had it raised in May, 1837, almost sixty-eight years ago. I lived in it twenty-five years, and in my present home ever since.

"I think Mr. Luther Spencer would know something about the history of Lewis branch. They came here one year after my father's family did.

I remember picking wild strawberries where Albion now stands. There was not a house to be seen; it was two and one-half miles from my home.

"Mr. Timothy Gaby, who, with his wife, has been visiting me, says he helped your father (William Skeels) to raise your log cabin. He has been here since 1846, and is now 85 years old."

ECCENTRIC INDIVIDUALS.



Where now lives John C. Foote, himself an old resident, once, in 1858, resided Caleb H. Skeels

and his wife, Elizabeth (Busz). Caleb was a man of versatile genius. He was capable of turning his genius to profit as well as pleasure. His various avocations of farmer, agent, photographer, jeweler, etc., gave him advantages for obtaining general knowledge, and studying human character. He had seen much of life's sunny side, as well as the side of adversity. He was an excellent conversationalist, a jester, and agreeable with his friends. One of his eccentricities was the naming of his children, of whom were five girls—four from his first marriage and one from his last union with Miss Busz. He gave them the names of Missouri, Virginia, Alabama, Delaware and Florida. He died some years ago at his home in Ligonier. The widow Elizabeth, who was the daughter of the old pioneers, Jacob and Catherine Busz—remarried with E. S. Krause, of Montcalm county, Michigan. She writes an occasional bit of the log cabin times, in one of which she refers to John Nicholas Busz, her brother, at one time proprietor of the old Worden House in Albion, and also to William Skeels. Her own language follows:

"I think it was in the year 1850 the first time I heard the name Skeels mentioned, which was through my brother John. He was about sixteen years old. One of our neighbors hired him to go over into Jefferson to buy a load of corn; and the weather was so cold that he froze his feet on the way. He staid all night and a couple of days at Uncle

Billy Skeels'. When he returned home he related how good Aunt Susie was to him. Then in a little while the Skeels' moved to Green, where brother John married one of the daughters, Mary Skeels.

"I well remember one incident that I heard Uncle Billy relate. He said when he moved from Ohio it was in the fall. After he bought his land, he only had ten cents left, with seven in a family,—himself and Aunt Susie, and five girls. I know that they did not eat any bread of idleness that winter."

ONE DOLLAR A GALLON.

Forty years ago we paid sixty-five cents a yard for bleached muslin to make a shirt. We might name you numerous other articles of merchandise,—groceries and provisions that were seemingly extortionate in price; but, in some degree, there were legitimate causes for high prices. Now, one may think that the people who, fifty years ago, were burning tallow candles at a mere nominal expense, exhibited a disposition chock full of economy—an example worthy of emulation.

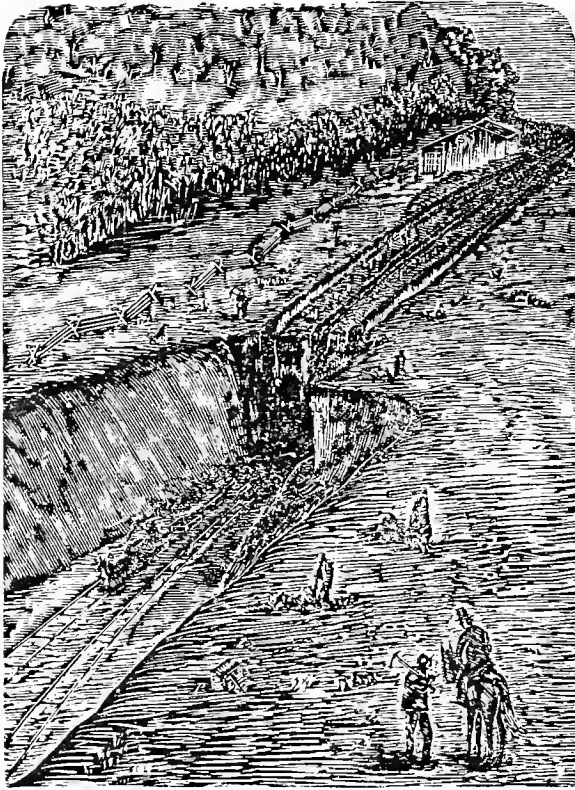
Albion, in the 'fifties, snuffed the charred wicks from her "tallow-dips" with fancy candle-snuffers, while the crude petroleum oil—most of which was extracted from bituminous coal by retorts—found a place in the crude lamps of well-to-do families. And the while inventive genius was cornered up by the oil companies and made to serve as experimenters in refining the crude petroleum. Varied

success followed these experiments, until, say, fifty years ago, Albion citizens could get a middling fair quality of the refined stuff at one dollar per gallon. This price was paid by the writer at that time

But a considerable time after this we remember how the country folks were served right at their doors by Jerry Nicodemus, with what he called a new and improved illuminating fluid, named "pet-ro-lee-um"—with a strong accent on the third syllable. There was no law governing the test of oil, because the high combustion was the thing desirable to make the light superior to the candle. It was many years, however, before the inventor produced a lamp which would burn the refined oil without "smoking." Even to this day, with the highest test oil, many persons blame the illuminating fluid instead of the lamps or their own omissions of trivial character. The present price of oil at retail is twelve cents.

THE BLUE GRASS CUT.

We reprint on next page, an old wood engraving of the once famous "blue grass cut" on the B. & O. railway west of Albion, as it appeared thirty-five years ago, during the construction of that road. The engraving and sketch were made by the writer at that time, and of course shows some imperfections as a work of art. Many of our old residents will remember the difficulties encountered by the company in removing the blue clay earth of that region, and will recall many incidents and accidents.



The advancement made in wood engraving, during a period of thirty-five years, is portrayed very forcibly by comparison of the "blue grass" cut with our beautiful frontispiece. Wood engraving is now a thing of the past, except for machinery and delicate parts of pictures which cannot be brought out in photo-engraving, many of which latter graces the pages of this book.

STORY OF A NORWEGIAN.

There was a time about the year 1838 when Noble county was scourged with virulent malaria, and complications, arising from uncleanness and unsanitary conditions, existed. The epidemic carried off scores of emigrants, and entire families were decimated. Other scores of emigrants precipitately fled the country to escape impending disease and death.

About this time a colony of Norwegians came to Fort Wayne and passed through the only avenue to the northwest—known as the military road to Goshen—their objective point being Noble county. Once in the neighborhood of Joe Bristol's tavern, they found a fertile region near the Kitt farm, where they camped to form a settlement. Having little knowledge of sanitation and cleanliness with regard to health, they soon became afflicted with scurvy, in addition to malaria fever. The result was, that all who did not flee the country, died, except one child, whose parents were interred in a plot of ground by the roadside.

Joe Bristol took compassion on the filthy, emaciated boy, whose intellect seemed brighter than his surrounding playmates. But his condition was such, owing to the plague of scurvy with which he was afflicted, that he was placed in an isolated outbuilding near the tavern until such time when he might be properly treated for recovery. A man named Brown, accompanied by his wife, who were returning

from Goshen to their home at Fort Wayne, passed by and was attracted by the boy in the outbuilding.

Mr. Brown was kindly disposed, and full of that humanity that has saved many worthy orphans. He requested the privilege of taking the boy home with him, and caring for him as his own. The request was readily granted, and the poor sickly orphan child, in the tender care of Mr. Brown, soon recovered from disease, and was clothed and fed, and, as he grew, educated into honorable manhood. He was given a medical and surgical education, which, in after years, made him prominent in Fort Wayne and throughout northern Indiana as the first skilled surgeon in rank. Having had more than a passing acquaintance with this noted surgeon in the 'sixties, we feel proud in naming him Dr. Ericsson.

The Ericsson family, for awhile, lived in Kendallville. While there the doctor's sons, in 1873, were sent to the old burial ground near Merriam, where the highway was undergoing excavations, and the precious bones of the parents were exhumed and removed to their last resting place, passing through Albion where they were viewed by the writer.

LEWIS' BRANCH.

The creek called Lewis' Branch (first given that name in 1836 by Lewis Potts) was closely identified with Albion's earliest history, and had an industrial record before Albion was known. Along part of

its serpentine trail was first located an Indian roadway from the northeast to Port Mitchell and farther on, passing over, near the "Center," the old farms of Jehu Foster, Sweet, Skinner, Potts, Call, Skeels and Andrews, Sillibaugh, Banning (Storey), Trott (Earle), Jacob Kramer, to the Port.

Sawmills were erected first by the Spencers, Harrison Wood and Stephen Shaw. The Spencer mill was erected about half a mile up-stream from what is now called Smith's bridge, in Jefferson township, and enjoyed the distinction of sawing lumber for the first frame court house. The beautiful and massive stone structure, the B. & O. culvert, now spans the creek near the site of the Spencer mill. The culvert represented on page 24 is from a photo by Charles Sieber, taken at high water.

Later, Stephen Shaw erected a mill at the Smith bridge, and built a dam on the east side of the road. This mill went out of commission in 1857. A log cabin was erected below, on the south bank of the creek, in 1845, by Mr. Wright. This cabin was the birthplace, in 1848, of Miss Samantha Young (now Mrs. Wallace), whose mother's maiden name was Gilchrist. The Anspachs, Gilchrists and Storeys settled on the stream about 1843-5.

Farther down the stream, within sight of Albion, on the Storey farm, was erected a sawmill and wool-carding factory, at one time superintended by Mr. Anspach.

Tradition gives a mythical story of its name-origin. Away back in the early 'forties a solitary horseman came riding down its classic banks, from whence and to where nobody knows. He suddenly disappeared in the quicksands or quagmire, in the dead of night, and the rider and steed both sank to rise no more. As the legend goes the name of the stranger was Lewis. We may add, Lewis' Branch as a creek is no more; it is not on the map; but in its stead are to be seen long, straight and angular lines of deep cut ditches or canals, in which the water is forced to keep its banks, until it finds its level in the Little Elkhart river.

Appropos of the receding of its water may be related the following bit of repartee: A couple of old-time chums, in the latter part of 1897, during the work of excavations on the Brown hill, had crossed the bridge going north. They were evidently strangers. Said one of the couple to a workman, "Say, Mister, kin you tell me what the name of that 'ere river is what we jist passed?" "I dunno; guess it hasn't got a name; it is not a river," and the shoveler kept on shoveling. "O, you fellers think you're gol-darned smart around here! Wasn't that a river one day?" And the gray-beards passed on up the hill, satisfied that the Brown hill workmen didn't know anything about the history of Lewis' Branch.

THE LIVING SKELETON.

The old York township burial ground—now included in Rose Hill cemetery of Albion—contains

many unmarked graves. From 1847 to 1854 this burial ground remained in York; in the latter year Albion township was formed from York and Jefferson townships, and this was a township burial ground including several extensions, until the Albion Cemetery association was formed, when it became the Rose Hill cemetery.

Frequently excavations were made for the dead on grounds where others had been laid to rest many years before, and being unmarked were forgotten. A peculiar case of this kind occurred as late as 1897, in which a body was exhumed which had lain for a period of forty-one years.

We know not if the sexton, with the skull in hand, as did Hamlet with Yorick, exclaim:

"Alas! poor Yorick! I knew him, Horatio; a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent faculty; * * and now how abhorred in my imagination it is! my gorge rises at it. Here hung those lips that * * have been kissed I know not how oft."

In life the man had passed his latter years, in a literal sense, as the "living skeleton." His flesh had wasted away and still he walked the earth as "skin and bone." He did not die, in the sense of dying, but lay down in an unrecognizable transition. When exhumed there appeared to be no outward change from life, except the vital organs were not active. There was no appreciable decay, no broken cuticle. It was a most remarkable case of preservation.

In life the "walking skeleton," clothed in its physical habiliments, was a Mr. Mains, who lived in Albion in the early fifties. The writer well remembers his widow, an elderly lady, who for a length of time resided in the old house by the mill on the William Storey farm, 1859. Her daughter, Rose Ann, married Simon Michael, who went to the civil war and there died. His widow went west, and remarried.

The exhumed body was tenderly replaced, where it is hoped it may rest its allotted time of a thousand years.

OLD-TIME SPELLING MATCH.

(Sketch by the late Hon. S. E. Alvord.)

The awakened interest in educational matters naturally opens to some of the old folks, now and then, vistas of corresponding memories. Looking away, through such a vista, to a point of time twenty-two years ago, now thirty-three years, the writer sees a scene of a spelling match in the old court house, on Friday evening, April 9, 1875. It is believed that the interest in the names of the participants, alone, may excuse the reminiscence in this form.

It had been understood that Jefferson township, which was then celebrated for good spelling, would on that evening introduce some of the champion spellers, and challenge Albion to face them. Albion was willing, and the old court room was filled with an expectant audience. Nobody was selected as

"champions," but a few were mentioned as fairly good spellers among those present, and they said they would try. After considerable waiting it was announced that Jefferson, on account of illness of one or two of her champions, would have to postpone the trial. Then Albion folks determined to have a little "spell" among themselves.

They elected M. C. Skinner president. He appointed George W. Roof and William R. Knox, captains, to choose sides. T. M. Eells was unanimously chosen pronouncer, and Webster's dictionary as the standard of decision. The battle arrays were soon formed as follows:

G. W. Roof	W. R. Knox
Miss L. Woodruff	Mrs. N. Sessions
Miss C. Harkins	Miss Allie Barnum
Miss M. Acus	Charles Manning
W. Frank Clapp	Dr. S. L. Cook
Dr. N. Sessions	Miss Ella Prentiss
Mrs. H. S. Bortner	Miss McMahan
N. P. Eagles	Lorin Woodruff
M. C. Skinner	Frank Singrey
Frank Cook	Elam Shirk
Thurlow B. Phillips	Miss Aura Laycox
F. O. Kammerer	Miss — Fisher

Mr. Eells pronounced from Webster's dictionary. After a brief contest between the sitting classes, which resulted in a victory for Roof's class, they arose to spell down. In this, also, victory perched on the banner of the Roof class—three of them—

Miss Harkins, N. P. Eagles and Frank Cook having the floor after the other side had all subsided. The last to yield of the Knox class, was Miss Allie Barnum, who miscounted one of the beads of her "rosa(e)ry" and sat down to meditate. The contest was thus narrowed to the three Roof class champions, Miss C. Harkins, N. P. Eagles and Frank Cook.

Sheriff Eagles first succumbed to the attack of a "gavi(e)al." Then Frank Cook said "u" to a "gawky," and was knocked down for it—leaving Miss Cora Harkins champion of the tournament.

That impromptu affair awakened an interest that resulted in several tournaments of that kind, and stimulated some not unfruitful study of English orthography.—ALBION, April 26, 1897.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY OF 1860.

In the Noble County Journal of 1860, published at Kendallville by G. W. Roof, (Judson Palmiter, editor,) the following persons held office in Noble county:

Common Pleas Judge—S. J. Stoughton.

Clerk—James Haxby.

Prosecutor—Moses Jenkinson.

Auditor—D. S. Love.

Treasurer—James M. Denny.

Recorder—J. P. McWilliams.

Sheriff—D. S. Simons.

Surveyor—E. B. Gerber.

Coroner—Fred Acus.

Commissioners—S. S. Ohlwine, James W. Long and Charles Law.

In the same paper we find that the Fort Wayne and Sturgis stage line was still doing business daily through Noble county, with Captain Hiram Iddings proprietor. Jim Kelley was still holding the "largest and best dances ever in the country" at Rome City; while the Lake Shore railroad was happy in running two trains daily for the accommodation of the traveling public.

Flour was selling at \$6 per barrel; white wheat, \$1.20; corn, 35 cts.; oats, 26 cts.; butter, 10 cts; eggs, 70 cts.; potatoes, 15 cts.; salt, \$1.85; wool, 25 cts. to 40 cts.

Verily half a century worketh wonders.

IT WAS NOT A VEHICLE.

We presume that the buggy maker of Noble township, who more than twenty years ago had, himself, made an excellent buggy, still lives to remember having brought it to town on top of a hay wagon, and drove up in front of the Democrat office which was presided over by the veteran newspaper editor, S. E. Alvord.

The buggy was richly and artistically painted yellow and striped with black, and the maker was justly proud of his handiwork. Mr. Alvord was called from his sanctum to the door to view the new buggy, and perhaps would be expected to write up a neat little notice for the next issue of his paper.

The editor after viewing it with apparent interest at last straightened up and surprised the on-lookers with the inquiry:

"Well, my friend, what kind of a vehicle do you call that?"

"Why, I don't call it a vehicle at all. That's a buggy, confound it!"



CONCLUDING TRIBUTE.

It has been justly said that "Nations that fail to give due recognition to the achievements and the characters of the able men among them who have aided in the upbuilding of their institutions, either still linger within the trammels of barbarism or are moving on the downward path toward decadence."

In our conclusion, we desire to recur to the work of the noble pioneers to the extent necessary to enable us, by recalling the actions and struggles of the peaceful dead and the living aged, to fix the duty of those of this generation,—the heirs of the wise government and social structure which our forefathers founded.

A similarity exists between the federal constitution-framers in their struggle for a foundation. Local governments are formed from local wants, and they advance in intellectuality as surely as do their morals progress. This is the evolution of civilized peoples

An occasional contrariety of opinion may have arisen as to the steps required to carry out a common purpose. One class may have favored a wide scope of power, the other a narrower declaration. The township organization must conform to the county declaration; the county must subserve to the state, and the state to the federal. Reforms must of necessity begin at the first declaration, however crude they may be. Enlightened by love of country and devotion to civil liberty, the pioneers trusted

to the people who were to be governed by their seeming crude democratic dictum, whom they trusted would successfully work out the problems left unsolved.

Thus it is true to say that the gratitude which we owe to our fathers is due, not to those who were democrats, or those who were whigs, or to Presbyterians, or Methodists, or universalists, but to all alike; for a common love of country and willingness to make intellectual sacrifices for its benefit on the part of all—called the newer era into being. Had they not self-abnegated themselves in refusing to insist upon the full adoption, each of their individual views, that flexibility so necessary to enable adjustment of questions as they might arise, think you that the situation would not have been hopelessly wrecked?

As we thus acclaim and stand upon our reflection, let us ask how may we fit ourselves to discharge the duty which we are called upon to do? By keeping in our hearts a devotion to country, a love of free government, and a reverence for the institutions which the fathers have given us; and by reflection on the hard-wrought endeavors of those who opened the way, to rekindle in all our hearts a keener purpose to preserve and perpetuate that which is, in reality a precious gift.

All honor and reverence to the pioneers whose iron will and perseverance determined the caste for all time to come, by which we now enjoy the highest type of civilization.

May civil liberty not pass away from the face of the earth.

ALBION BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

CORRECTED UP TO JANUARY, 1908.

PART VIII.

TOWN OFFICIALS—Trustees: 1st Ward, Noah Barcus; 2d Ward, Logan Winebrenner; 3d Ward, John Lozier.

Treasurer—H. D. Stone.

Clerk—Ralph Halferty.

Marshal—Leslie Omsted.

Attorney—David S. Taylor.

Assessor—Tim Rallihan.

Justice of the Peace—William Trump.

Albion Board of Health—Dr. J. W. Morr, Secretary.

Albion School Board—N. G. Reiff, president; E. S. Fitch, secretary; Wm. Earle, treasurer.

Albion Schools—W. H. Menaugh, supt.; Will T. Knox, principal high school; Walter E. Gordon, assistant principal; R. E. Smith, high school and grade 8; V. L. Clear, grade 7; Mrs. E. Clark, grades 5—6; Harriet Bidwell, grades 3—4; Maud Voris, grades 1—2.

Churches—M. E. Church, Rev. L. E. Knox, pastor; Presbyterian, Rev. C. A. Price, pastor; Lutheran, Rev. D. F. Kain, pastor; United Brethren, Rev. A. F. Knepp, pastor; Wesleyan Methodist, Rev. C. S. Smith, pastor; Roman Catholic, Father J. W. Schmitz.

Cemetery Association—J. D. Black, secretary.

Postmaster—John H. Cockley.

R'y City Mail Carrier—Harrison Coe.

Rural Mail Carriers—Route 1, Fred Talbert;
Route 2, Myrom Hursey; Route 3, William Marshall;
Route 4, N. B. Hathaway; Route 5, W. Evans;
Route 6, Albert Williams.

Albion National Bank—W. S. Cramer, cashier;
Farmer's State Bank—T. M. Reed, cashier.

Hotel Albion—E. L. Adair, Propr.

Paragon Mills—A. L. Shipley, Propr.

Handle Factory—J. D. Black, Pres.

Sawmill—R. B. Clear, Propr.

Electric Light and Water—A. E. Ward, Supt.

Exchange and Feed Mills—Ingraham & Sons.

Tile and Brick Yards—Frank Landgraff.

Cement Block Manufacturers—Eagles & Kunkle.

Cider Manufacturer—Charles Campbell.

Steam Laundry—E. F. Spencer.

Tile, Brick and Cement—J. H. Frazure.

Carpet and Rug Factory—Charles Sieber.

Carpet Weavers—Mrs. Jane Sheffler, Madison &
Keller.

Threshermen—Campbell Brothers.

Grain Elevators—James Walton, M'gr.

Sunny Side Dairy—W. Bowen.

Dray Line—Arthur C. Green.

Cabinet Worker—James Chilcote.

Harness Manufacturers—P. A. Sunday, James
Matthews.

- Shoemaker—H. Rosenberger.
Bowling Alley—Company A, I. N. G., M'gr.
Liverymen—Alva Hostetter, Henney Bros., M.
H. Scott.
Furniture and Undertaker—Walter Bonham.
Buggies and Wagons—John Lozier, R. L. Stone,
Straus, Ackerman & Co.
Marble Agency—Fred Waltman.
Coal Dealers—Eagles & Sons, J. D. Berger.
Grain Merchants—Ackerman, Stone.
Opera House—G. O. Russell, M'gr.
Western Union Telegraph—Daniel Matthews,
operator.
Postal Telegraph—J. J. Martin, operator.
B. & O. R'y Agent—W. U. Holderman.
Flagman—George Minard.
Independent Telephone—A. R. Niedhardt, M'gr.
Bell Telephone—A. R. Otis, M'gr.
Railway Busman—Alva Hostetter.
Auctioneers—John Wilson, W. N. Page.
Surveyors—Sawyer, James Johnston, Bortner &
Son.
Kitselman Coil Spring Fence—C. C. Rule, agent
for Noble county.
Strawberry Culturist—Rev. William Talbert.
Nurseryman—Dr. Cook.
Truck Gardener, S. Sams.
Stock Buyers, Huston Bros., R. L. Stone.
Butter and Eggs, C. W. Beck.
Grain and Wool, Straus, Ackerman & Co.

Bakeries, Busz & Gatwood, W. T. Marks.

Buggy and Wagon Repairs, Jesse Hoffman.

Clothing, Ready Made and to Order, Tim Ral-
lihan.

Barbers, R. D. Garramone, Marker & Bowen,
Frank Marks.

Dressmakers and Seamsters, Frazure Sisters,
Mrs. C. F. Haney, Mrs. Sylvester Mullen, Maude
Kiblinger.

Machinist and Repairs, O. Singrey.

Cement Work, Tim Ralihan, Parmalee, W. G.
Brown.

Music Teachers, A. P. Smith, J. H. Johnston.

Blacksmiths, A. E. Haney, George Kriegbaum,
Kutcher & Haney, Nicodemus & Franks.

Paper Hangers, John Epp, W. J. Boate, Frank
Cook, Vernon Ray, William Kettleboro.

Billboard Artist, Bert Rickard.

Sign Painter, L. J. Edwards.

Brick Mason, Isaac Breeden.

Stone Masons, James Parmalee, W. G. Brown.

Musicians, Garramone, Matthews Bros.

Carpenters, Noah Barcus, John Gatwood, F. C.
Fuller, Halsy Mack, Ross Zimmerman, George
Bidwell.

Nuts, Candies, Fruits, George Simmons.

Plasterer and Contractor, Clyde Madison.

Painters, Epp, Cook, Boate, Edwards, Rickard,
Skinner, Ray, Kettleboro.

Poultry Fancier, William Talbert.

- Meat Market, Winebrenner Brothers.
Dentists, J. H. Johnston, R. S. Malony.
Millinery, M. B. Spencer, Shisler & Lash.
Merchant Tailors, G. O. Russell, L. J. Evans.
Druggists, M. C. Beck, H. D. Stone, B. E. Miller.
Boots and Shoes, G. Schwab.
Jewelers, E. S. Fitch, Ed W. Hicks.
Restaurants, Lee Danner, H. B. Foster, W. T. Marks.
Shorthand Reporter, M. T. Stone.
Lumber Dealer, Eagles & Son.
New Era, E. L. Adair, publisher.
Democrat, W. H. McEwen, publisher.
Dry Goods and Clothing, J. D. Black & Sons, Schloss Bros.
Groceries, C. B. Phillips, W. H. Hart, Busz & Gatwood, Guy Hardenbrook, G. W. Roof, Laura C. Burns.
Hardware, J. D. Berger, Moore & Metz, D. L. Baughman.
Agricultural Implements, John Lozier, George W. Smith, jr., J. D. Berger, Moore & Metz.
Real Estate, Straus, Ackerman & Co., J. J. Lash, Menaugh & Menaugh.
Insurance, William Trump, W. N. Voris, V. L. Clear, Menaugh & Menaugh, D. Schaff.
Veterinary, William Dicer, Harvey Hostetter.
Newhope Hospital, Dr. J. W. Morr, Supt.
Free Delivery, Harry Fiske, Propr.
Pension Agent, S. T. Ward.
Wells, N. B. Rogers, Brumbaugh & Co.

News Depots, M. C. Beck, B. E. Miller, Frank Cole.

Attorneys, L. W. Welker, L. H. Wrigley, D. S. Taylor, Field & Spangler.

Physicians, S. W. Lemmon, W. T. Green, Hayes & Son, J. W. Morr, N. G. Reiff, W. F. Carver.

Abstracter, D. S. Taylor.

5-25 Store, S. T. Ward & Co.

Photographers, J. A. Harkless, C. A. Price.

BUSINESS MEN INTERVIEWED.

AND WHAT THEY SAY.

PART IX.

Advertisements are permanent records of the business transacted in the community of the advertiser. The present worth of an advertisement is invaluable; not only is its present of value, but its future, during the life of the business advertised, continues of value.

This is not all: Ten, twenty, fifty years hence, what is better history or a better record of the time in which the advertiser lived? What more interesting to the future reader, to the future generations—to your children and your children's children?

Our volume would not be complete without permitting our business people to place on a permanent exhibit, in the following pages, their own contributions of thought, in which is portrayed a component part of the world's busy TODAY.

We commend their contributions to the studious reader of "Noble County Capitals and Greater Albion."

C. E. BURROWS

◊ ◊ The OLD and RELIABLE PIANO TUNER ◊ ◊

Of Fort Wayne makes tri-yearly visits to ALBION where his services can be secured at the ALBION HOUSE or by addressing him at ◊ ◊ ◊ ◊ ◊ ◊

BOX 182 FORT WAYNE, IND.

◊ ◊ EVERYTHING ◊ ◊

IN HARDWARE

Farm Implements, buggies, sewing machines, harness and De Laval Cream Separators at prices as low as anywhere in the county for same grade of goods at

BAUGHMAN'S HARDWARE, Albion



W. N. PAGE

General Auctioneer

Live stock a Specialty. To prevent errors all dates for sales must be made with W. H. McEwen, editor of The Democrat.

BOTH PHONES

ALBION, - INDIANA



The Noble County Abstract office is a Pioneer institution in Albion and in Noble County.

The present owner and manager is not a pioneer but he is descended from those who cleared the way for GREATER ALBION.

The Noble County Abstract Office has existed since the war of the Rebellion under the management of Kiser & Swett, Baughman & Worden, Worden & Fox, and is now owned and managed by David S. Taylor.

Abstracting of land titles has undergone a great change in the last few years and instead of being a mere business it is now ranked with the professions. A man to be successful in abstract work should be a real estate lawyer, an expert accountant, a surveyor, a geographer, a historian and a student of human nature.

The Noble County Abstract Office has a complete index to the records of deeds and mortgages and miscellaneous instruments, which is so arranged that in a short time any description of land may be traced from the United States Government to the present owner.

An Abstract of title is a history of a piece of land. It shows the transactions that have taken place with reference to any particular description of land and these transactions are so set out and assembled that within a short space of time it can be ascertained whether or not a good title rests in the individual who claims to own the land.

The Noble County Abstract Office solicits your business and guarantees the best work at the lowest possible price.

Noble County Abstract Office

Abstracting

Attorney-at-Law

Business Agent

NOTARY PUBLIC And Stenographer in Office

Office in Basement of Court House

ALBION, INDIANA

BOTH PHONES

DAVID S. TAYLOR, Manager

E. P. ROBERSON

Of 8536 Saginaw Avenue, Chicago, Ills.

Piano and Organ Dealer. I make Albion every two or three months. Those wishing to buy a fine piano I will give you a square deal as I have treated the following customers:—E. E. Prickett, W. H. Frazure, Mrs. Rauser, Mr. Hamlin, Mrs. W. Marks, Frank Marks, Mrs. Catharine Marks, Mrs. C. C. Kuhn, Mrs. Clara Cook, Mr. J. Cory, Mr. A. C. Green, Bessie B. Barcus, George G. Green, and Robert Hayes. Of Avilla, Ind., Harry Stewart and Mr. Jones.

E. P. ROBERSON

“ORIGINALITY”

Some houses set the pace, and always lead. Others imitate and follow. It is to the former class that our firm belongs---The novel, the original, the up-to-date. These have ever claimed our enthusiasm. We crowd our trade with original and beautiful designs in cut glass, silver plated ware, clocks. Gold, gold filled and plated jewelry, watches etc, and that's our secret of success.

ED. W. HICKS, Albion's Jeweler and
Optician *ooooo*

W. T. MARKS

BAKERY AND LUNCH

Albion, - - Indiana

**FIRST DOOR EAST OF
BLACK'S STORE**

**Lunch to Order
Bread the Best**

R. D. GARRAMONE

**City Tonsorialist
East Main Street**

ALBION, - - IND.

**4 Doors East of
Black & Sons' Store**

Located in Albion in Nov.
1880; was first to introduce
the reclining chair, the hair
clippers, and first to open an
up-to-date parlor.

LEE DANNER

Prop.

**MODERN HOTEL AND
RESTAURANT**

West Main St.,

ALBION, - - IND.

Meals & Service unsurpassed
Directly south of Court House
on alley five doors west of the
Albion National Bank.

DR. W. T. GREEN

Albion, Indiana

**Office Southwest Corner
Court House Basement.**

Residence East Main St.

Special attention to Surgery
and Diseases of Women and
Children; also cartarrhal dis-
eases.

F. S. WALTMAN

Albion, Ind.

**East Main street, east
of Wesleyan Church**

**Piano and Monumen
Dealer**

ALWAYS RELIABLE

David A. Schaff

**Notary Public
and Insurance**

**RESIDENCE ON
NORTH YORK ST.**

HOME PHONE 48

Albion, - Ind.

J. D. BLACK & SONS

ESTABLISHED 1856

ALBION, = INDIANA

The long existence and uniformly honorable dealings of this store give it a widely extended reputation for reliability, quality of merchandise and reasonableness of prices, that is unsurpassed.

The large amount of merchandise always in stock affords a wide range of choice in selecting purchases, and the high character of the lines and brands carried, as listed below, insures undoubted correctness in style and continued satisfaction.

Hart, Schaffner & Marx "Clothcraft," and Kuh, Nathan & Fischer Co. clothing for men, "Viking System" clothing for young men and boys.

The Palmer and "Printzess" lines in coats, jackets, tailored suits, raincoats and skirts for Women and Misses.

Howard & Foster, "Florsheim" and "All America" shoes and oxfords for Men and Boys. "Queen Quality" and "All America" shoes and oxfords for Women.

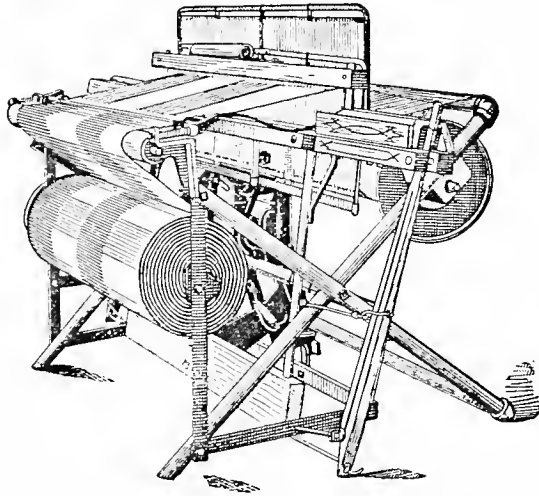
Richardson's carpets, rugs, mattings, lace curtains.

A complete stock of Dry Goods, Notions, Men's Furnishings and Groceries.

J. D. BLACK & SONS

"THE BUSY STORE"

Carpet Factory!



We now operate two power looms. With our long experience, we give satisfactory results. Write CHAS. SIEBER, Albion, Ind., or leave orders at South Side Grocery.

R. B. CLEAR

SUPERINTENDENT OF

THE ALBION LUMBER CO.

ESTABLISHED 1901

Manufacturer Hardwood Lumber from
Native Timber.

Custom Work and Special Orders Promptly Filled

L. H. WRIGLEY

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

ALBION, - INDIANA

**OFFICE DIRECTLY WEST
OF COURT HOUSE**

Established 1881

L. W. WELKER

LAWYER

Albion - Indiana

Office Over State Bank

PHONE 71

Field & Spangler

**ATTORNEYS
AT-LAW**

**Office over Stone's Drug
Store**

**HOME
PHONE 184 ALBION, IND.**

**ALBION STEAM
LAUNDRY**

**E. F. Spencer
Propr.**

17 EAST MAIN STREET

B. F. MARKS

Barber

Albion - - Indiana

**Easy shaves and stylish hair
cuts**

**Shop five doors south of Al-
bion National Bank**

Dr. H. Hostetter

VET. SURGEON

ALBION, - INDIANA

**Student of Ontario and Grad-
uate of Grand Rapids
Veterinary College**

**Scientific treatment of all dis-
eases of domestic animals.**

Calls promptly answered

Ideal Cement Block Plant

MANUFACTURERS OF

Cement Building Blocks and Chimney Blocks in Plain or Rock Face and Cement Fence Posts.

Contractor and Builder of Cement Walks, Porches and Water Tanks.

All work done in Workmanlike manner. Prices Reasonable.

HOME PHONE 150

E. A. Kunkle, Albion, Ind.

F. P. Ingraham & Son

PROPRIETORS OF

Flour, Feed and Exchange Mill

SOUTH ORANGE ST., ALBION, IND.

We are wholesalers and sale agents of the celebrated "PERFECTION FLOUR," manufactured for us. This is the flour that everybody wants, because it is first class, even grade, makes fine bread, biscuit, pastry and everything else in the line of breadstuff products. We make a specialty of manufacturing most wholesome Graham Flour, not equaled in quality; and also of Meal made from the best kiln-dried corn, for table use.

WE EXCHANGE FLOUR FOR WHEAT

Also grind feed for all kinds of stock.

We sell the best and cheapest Stock Foods.

THE WIDE AWAKE GROCERY

THE PIONEER GROCERY OF ALBION

Its proprietor having been in business for over forty years in Albion, being burned out entirely when in the Dry Goods and Grocery business where Schloss Bros. now conduct their store. After serving in the Auditor's office for two terms he again embarked in the mercantile business where he is now located, and is ever ready to demonstrate to the people that he is just as capable of serving them in a business way as he was forty years ago. You are all cordially invited to come in and trade at the old stand and he will treat you square.

C. B. PHILLIPS

PROPRIETOR, - PHONE 49

NOW IS THE TIME!

TO PROCURE

LUMBER

Shingles, Porch and Interior Finish,
Lime, English and American Cement
and Building Material at Prices that
will save you money.

YARD OPPOSITE B. & O. DEPOT

EAGLES and SON

PHONE 38

Finley C. Fuller

**CONTRACTOR
AND BUILDER**

Our work comprises the best structures in city and country. Our references are Albion, Kimmell and elsewhere in the rural districts. We take pleasure in referring you among many others to J. C. Cleland, whose farm residence is shown on page 66 of this book. Modern and architectural adornments, both residences and barn, put up in substantial form, at reasonable prices for first-class work.

ESTIMATES FURNISHED ON APPLICATION.

Address at Albion, Indiana

GUY'S GROCERY

GUY HARDENBROOK, Prop.

Guy, as everybody calls him, has been actively connected with the grocery business in Albion since 1892, having served his apprenticeship under C. B. Phillips. For the past two and one-half years he has been in business for himself having purchased the Sams & Co. stock in the fall of '05.

The Grocery is located on the east side of Orange street one-half block south of Main, where you will find a complete stock of Staple and Fancy Groceries, Fresh Fish and Vegetables, China Ware and Crockery.

Indexing Kerosene Lamps, 100 candle power, brighter than Electricity, cheaper and safer than Gasoline.

REMEMBER THE PLACE

GUY'S GROCERY

ALBION, INDIANA

Phone 42

Reley Winebrenner

Logan Winebrenner

WINEBRENNER BROTHERS
Meat Markets



East Main Street

Six Doors East
of Black's Corner

South Orange St.

Seven doors south of
Albion National Bank

For several years the proprietors have been identified with the interests of the town and as such should have encouragement by liberal patronage.

BUSZ & GATWOOD

**Busy Grocers
and Bakers...**

West side of South Orange street, six doors south
of Albion National Bank.

FRESH CLEAN STOCK - HUSTLERS FOR TRADE

E. S. FITCH

ALBION, INDIANA

Jeweler and Optical Graduate

Came to Albion in 1874 from Waterloo. Located
first door east of Black's store until burned out in
1879. Then three doors east. Now nicely located
three doors south of National Bank, South Orange
street.

Well Assorted Up-to-date line of Watches and Jewelry

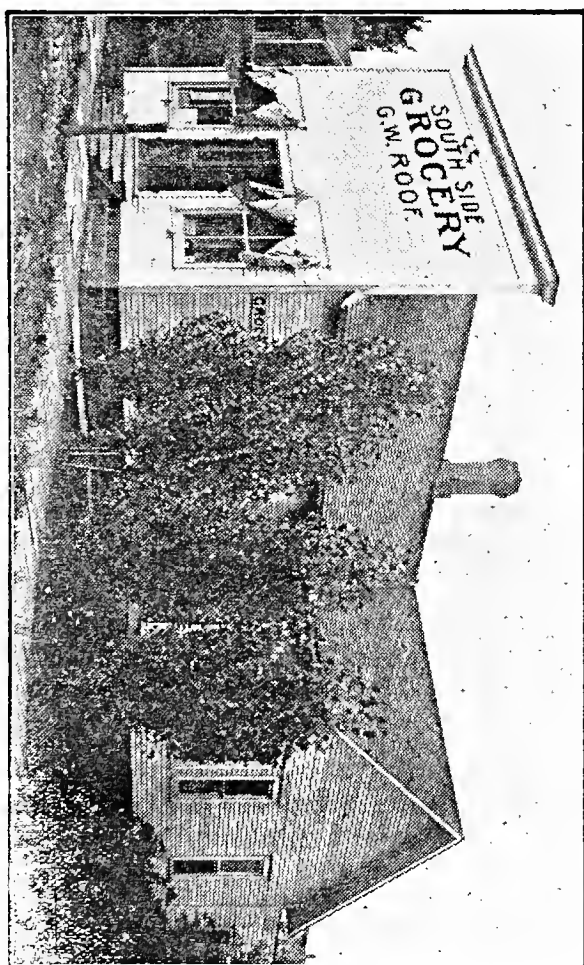
L. J. EVANS

MERCHANT TAILOR

ALBION, - INDIANA

A fine line of Woolens both Staple and Novelties.
Foreign and Domestic, always on hand. Cleaning
and Pressing, and repairing done with promptness
and neatness.

Located on Corner of Orange and Hazel Streets.



N. B. Rogers

OWNER OF

"Silverwood"

BY Silver Cloud No. 9778, he by Mambrino Chief Jr. No. 2:14, he by Mambrino Chief No. 11. Silver Cloud dam Maggie Ray by Shurty Magna. Silverwood dam Nancy, she by Dixwood No. 20,005, he by Edgewood No. 8069, he by Nutwood No. 600, he by Belmont No. 64.

Residence in east Albion near the Paragon Mills

**N. B. ROGERS &
....SON....**

Manufacturers of
TUBULAR WELLS

Albion, - Indiana

**BRUMBAUGH
BROS.**

WELL DRILLERS

Steam and hotwater heating,
Wind mills, tanks, pumps and
fitting

Office opposite the court
house - West Main St.

ALBION, IND.

W. Bowen's Dairy

ONE MILE NORTH AND ONE-HALF MILE EAST OF

ALBION, INDIANA

MILK DELIVERED PROMPTLY to all Parts of town

"Cleanliness next to Godliness" our Watchword.



ALVA HOSTETTER

PROPRIETOR

.....LEADING LIVERY.....
FEED AND SALE STABLE

ALBION, IND.

Special attention given to commercial men. Best accommodations, courteous treatment. Phones: Home 33, Bell 2.

BUS LINE IN CONNECTION

One and one-half blocks northeast of the Court House.

J. W. & WOODWARD
...HAYS...

Physicians & Surgeons

Office at Residence one
block east of the court
house square.

ALBION, - INDIANA

Calls Answered at All Hours

W. F. CARVER

**PHYSICIAN; and
SURGEON...**

Office and residence east
Main Street, one square
east of the court house
square.

ALBION, INDIANA

Timothy Rallihan

READY MADE AND MADE TO ORDER

CLOTHING

ALSO GENT'S FURNISHINGS

ALBION, IND. East Main St. Next to Laundry

Came to Albion in 1874 and with Ira Grant purchased the grocery stock of Franks Bros., South Orange street, on the site of the Scott Livery barn. Is the present assessor of Albion township.

H.G. Zimmerman

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Albion, Ind.

**Office in South East Cor-
ner Court House basement**

Telephone 73

Everything entrusted to
us strictly confidential
and promptly attended to

Will Nicodemus U. Franks

**NICODEMUS &
FRANKS**

**General Blacksmiths &
Woodworkers**

ALBION, INDIANA

Shop on Alley at Rear of the
Albion House

*All Work Guaranteed satis-
factory at Prices Right*

"We Are The Pioneers"



JAMES J. LASH came to Kendallville, Noble County, Indiana, in the year 1848, served four years in the U. S. Army during the late Rebellion, 1861-5; held the office of Postmaster at Kendallville, three years from 1866-9, being removed for political reasons; held the County Treasurers office four years, 1871-5; was the founder and proprietor of the "Albion Democrat" five years, 1882-7;

held the County Recorder's office four years, 1881-5, and has been in the Abstract business for over 25 years. When you wish an Abstract of the Title to your Home or Farm send your orders to

THE PIONEER ABSTRACT CO. ALBION, IND.

JAMES J. LASH & SON, Mgrs.

Office in our own building, So. Orange St. Home Phone 55

FRANK W. COLE

PROPRIETOR

OOOF00

COLE'S CONFECTIONERY AND TOBACCO STORE

Directly West of Court
House

ALBION, INDIANA

Headquarters for Chicago
Sunday Papers.

JOHN LOZIER

Albion, Ind.

Corner Orange and Hazel
Streets

Headquarters for

**INTERNATIONAL HAR-
VESTER CO.**

Buggies and Wagons
Gasoline Engines

“REXALL STORE”

ESTABLISHED 1869



Pioneer Drug Store of Noble County

H. D. STONE, Propr

Full Line Up-to-date Wall Paper, Mouldings, Window Shades, High Grade Paints, Varnishes, and Oils.

VINOL AGENCY

Spaulding's Sporting Goods, Fishing Tackle, Hammocks, etc. Elegant Line of Stationary, Books, Perfumes Confectionary, and Cigars.

Home Phone No. 46 Bell Phone No. 11

— THE —
Albion New Era

ESTABLISHED 1872

Each week a concise cyclopedia
of interesting news of Albion
and surrounding country. Sub-
scription price \$1.50.



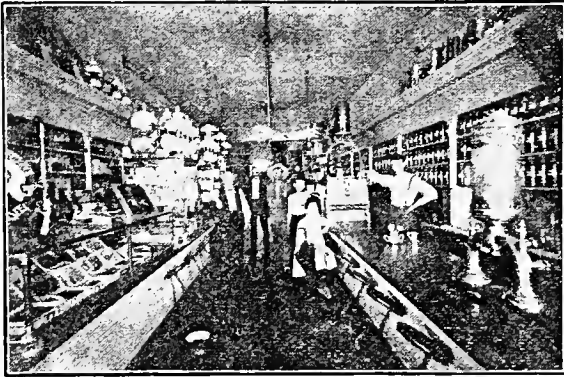
A modern job department in
connection. This book is a
sample of every day work.

PRICES RIGHT, WORK RIGHT

E. A. Adair, Editor and Prop.
Albion, Indiana

Dr. B. E. MILLER

DRUGGIST



This store was started in the spring of 1887 by Dr. A. L. Snyder, Bryan, Ohio, managed by his clerk, Mr. C. N. Kunkle, under the firm name, C. N. Kunkle & Co., until March 1890, when it was purchased by Dr. B. E. Miller, Antwerp, Ohio, who owns and conducts the business. Dr. Miller was engaged in the practice of medicine in connection therewith until recent years. He has been County Health Officer for a number of years and is President of the Board of Examining Surgeons for Pensions at Kendallville, Ind.

The Store is located on North Orange street, East Side of Court Square, has a full line of **Drug Sundries, Books, Stationery, Paints and Oils**, also a nice **Soda Fountain** where **Ice Cream Soda and Ice Cream and Fancy Drinks** is served by himself, or a neat, polite and enterprising clerk is always at hand to wait upon his many customers.

BECK'S DRUG STORE

EAST MAIN STREET



AS founded in 1879 by Hamlin & Skinner and purchased by Thomas A. Huston about 1883. In 1894 the present owner purchased a half interest in the stock, and in 1902 became sole proprietor. From its beginning it has enjoyed a most liberal patronage in and out of the city from those desiring : : : :

STATIONERY AND WALL PAPER

PAINTS, OILS AND VARNISHES

A nice, large and clean stock constantly on hand for inspection at right prices.

M. C. BECK

ALBION, IND.



S. T. WARD

came to Noble County, Aug. 1865, having been discharged from the U. S. Army, July 13, 1865; came to Albion near 1866, where engaged in Boots and Shoes, Groceries, and Livery, for many years. Now on E. Main Street, in General Notions, under name of

WARD & CO.

ALBION, IND.

in building built by him in 1868.

“GREEN FRONT” CONFECTIONERYSTORE.....

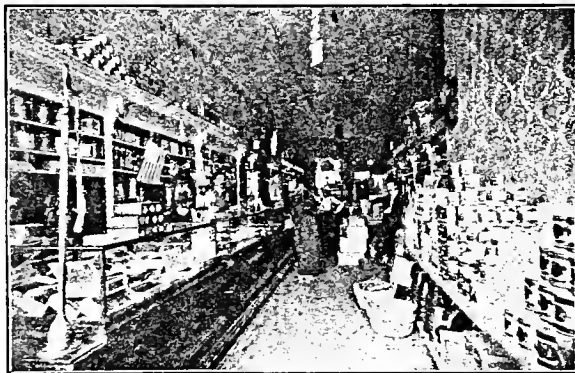
Directly East of the Court House, Albion, Indiana

**Keeps Constantly in Stock a Complete Line of Fruits
Tobaccos and Confections.**

Its proprietor is 60 years of age, 54 of which he has lived in Noble County and 18 years a resident of what is to be—“GREATER ALBION.”

GEORGE SIMMONS, PROPRIETOR

INTERIOR OF *HART'S GROCERY*



The grocery business of W. H. Hart was established November 15, 1892, at its present location, East Main street.

The business of the firm has had a steady increase from year to year, until today we can say we have as fine a business with as good a class of customers as any store in our little city. This firm has always dealt exclusively in

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS

and you can find here a fine assortment of **canned fruits, vegetables, salmon, olives and sardines**, also all kinds of fresh fruits and vegetables in season.

We sell the famous brands of Albion, Kimmell and Nappanee flour.

All kinds of Breakfast Food, Coffee, Tea and Spices. In fact everything usually found in a first-class grocery.

Everything sold in our store is marked and sold at the correct price. A square deal to everyone, first, last and all the time, is our motto. Hoping to meet all of our old customers and many new ones in the years to come,

I am yours very truly,

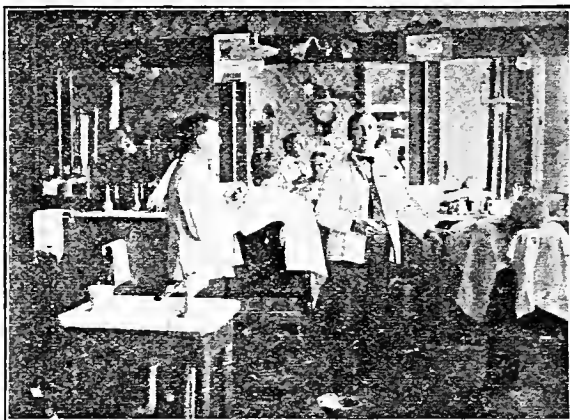
ALBION, INDIANA
HOME PHONE 25

W. H. HART

WILL BOWEN

CLAYTON MARKER

SHAVE HAIR CUT



BATH OR SHINE

BOWEN & MARKER

UP-TO-DATE BARBERS

First Door South of the Albion National Bank.

ALBION, INDIANA

00THE00

ALBION HOUSE

E. L. ADAIR, Prop.

Directly south court house
ALBION, IND.

Rates \$2.00 Per Day

Free Bus to Trains

Sunday Dinners a Specialty

KUTCHER & HANEY

Blacksmithing
a Specialty...

All Kinds of Repair Work

The Best in the city

East Main Street, 1 block
east of court house

ALBION, INDIANA

1873

THE

1908

Albion National Bank

Capital, \$25,000.00

FULLY PAID

Board of Directors

Thomas M. Ott
Ed W. Hicks
John W. Earle
J. Schermerhorn
James N. Harvey
Charles M. Clapp
Frederick Barnes
L. R. Ayers
John W. Long



Officers

Charles M. Clapp,
President
W. S. Cramer,
Cashier
L. R. Ayers,
First Vice Pres.
John W. Earle,
Second Vice Pres.

The Albion Bank was established by William M. Clapp in the Clapp-Phillips-White block erected in 1873-4, where it enjoyed the confidence and patronage of the community until destroyed by fire, October 7, 1880, after which it was removed to its present location, corner Main and Orange streets, and conducted by Charles M. Clapp until Nationalized Oct. 22, 1908.

The new officers, directors and stockholders invite your support and co-operation in making this bank one of the best in Indiana and a source of pride to all its patrons whom it is intended to serve and accommodate. Come in and let us know your wants.

4

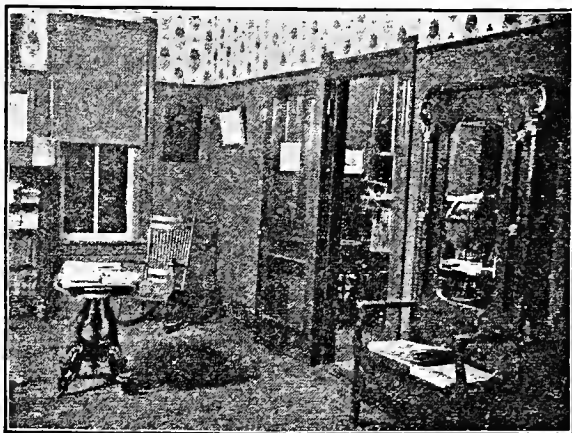
Per Cent Interest Paid on

Time Deposits

4

Travelers' Checks and Letters of Credit Available in All
Parts of the World.

A Look Into the Dental Parlors of



Dr. J. H. JOHNSTON

OFFICE OVER SCHLOSS BROS.' STORE, ALBION, INDIANA

BELL PHONE

HOME PHONE

Dr. JOHN W. MORR

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON

President and Physician in Charge of the

Newhope Hospital & Sanitarium

South Orange Street, ALBION, IND'A.

IT is a home enterprise, and before going to out of town institutions for treatment or surgical operations you should consult the management, and arrange to have your wants cared for at home.

The success of this institution depends entirely on its friends, and a careful investigation will convince you, that the result obtained here, will compare favorable with larger institutions in other cities.

References, any physician or business man in Albion. For particulars, call on or address

Dr. JOHN W. MORR, Physician in charge.

Laura's Grocery



LAURA C. BURNS, Propr.

**Northeast Corner Court Square
North Orange St., Albion, Ind.**

Established 1880, by E. Walters, and purchased by present proprietor in July, 1906. This store has always been foremost in its lines—**Staple and Fancy Groceries, Fresh Fruits and Vegetables**, and is noted for its well selected and clean kept stock. A continuance of its most liberal patronage is always solicited. Highest prices for produce

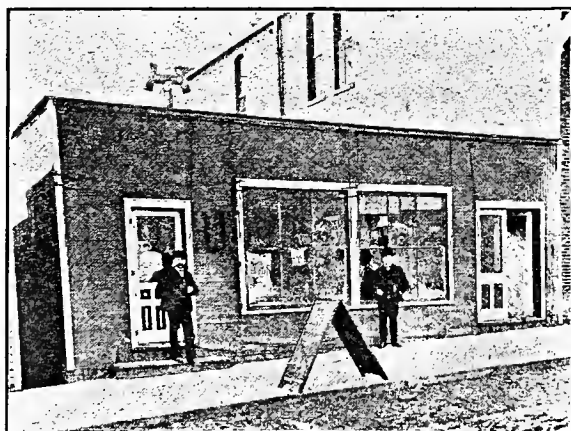
A Corner in ALBION'S OLDEST ESTABLISHED DENTAL OFFICE



Dr. R. S. MALONY'S

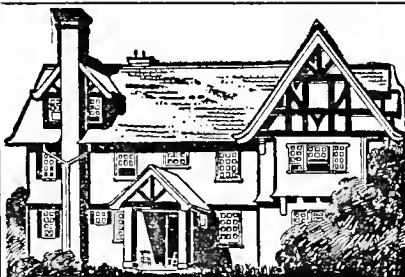
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A front view of H. B. FOSTER'S
CONFECTIONERY STORE and LUNCH ROOM



THREE DOORS SOUTH
OF NATIONAL BANK

ALBION, IND.



SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINTS & VARNISHES

WE want every housewife to know that for every surface, outside and inside of her home, there is a special paint, varnish, stain or enamel; that the selection of the right treatment for each surface is vital to durability as well as pleasing effects, and that The Sherwin-Williams Co., whom we represent, have devoted forty years to the study of surface treatments and the making of paints and varnishes best suited to each.



Have a Paint Talk with Us

The woman who wants a home that is artistic and up-to-date in every way, should come in and have a paint talk with us. We will be glad to tell her of the possibilities of paint and varnish in beautifying and preserving every surface in and about the home, and how to treat each room so as to secure pleasing and harmonious results.

528



Get the Prices!

Get the Paint!

H. D. Stone

ALBION AGENT

Directly South of the
Court House

ALBION, IND.

Farmers State Bank

ALBION, IND.

PAID UP CAPITAL - \$ 35,000.00

Deposits over - - \$200,000.00

STRICTLY A LOCAL INSTITUTION

4 Per Cent Interest
Paid on Certificates
of Deposit if left four
Months

Your Business Solicited

MONEY to LOAN at ALL TIMES

Safety Boxes to Rent

Come See Us and Make Yourself at Home

OFFICERS

Louis Stiefel, President
Byron P. Gray, V. Pres.
Thos. M. Reed, Cashier

DIRECTORS

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Willis Foster
I. D. Straus
Byron P. Gray
Abe Ackerman
Louis Stiefel

STRAUS, ACKERMAN & CO.

GRAIN, SEEDS AND WOOL

ALSO ECKHART BUGGIES

STRAUS, ACKERMAN & CO.

Buy, Sell and Trade Farms

CALL AND GET ONE OUR CATALOGUES

G. O. RUSSELL, Jr.

MERCHANT TAILOR



ALBION, IND. - GARRETT, IND.

Established 1889 at its Present
Location east of the Court house.

We show you largest line of Piece Goods carried in county

A dry cleaning plant is a late addition to the business.

At all times will be found keeping pace with
"Greater Albion"

Garrett branch established in spring of 1907 to accommodate a steady increase of business

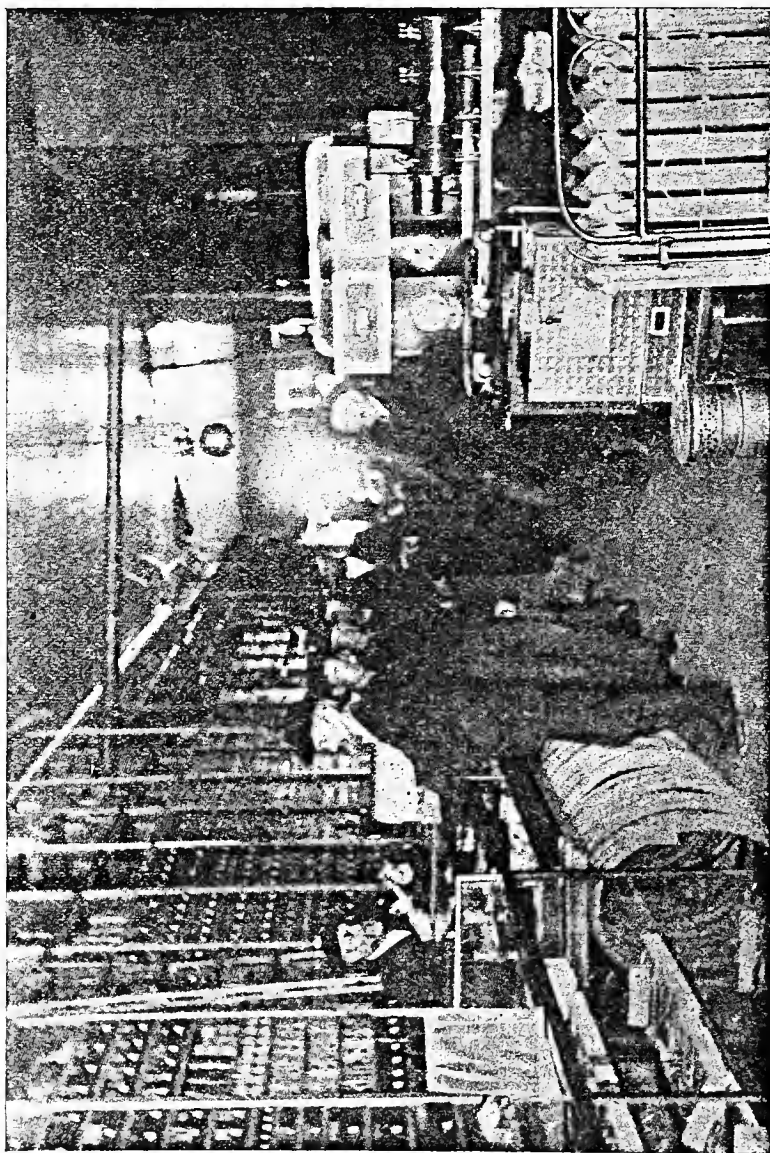
Nobby Patterns

Best Workmen

J. D. BERGER

ALBION, INDIANA

Pioneer Hardware Dealer



Interior of J. D. Berger's Hardware Store

Established Hardware store at Cromwell Jan. 1, 1877. Removed to Albion and purchased the Markey & Walters stock in McMeans Block, 1881; removed to first door west National Bank, 1884; thence to present building east of Court House, erected in 1891.

SCHLOSS BROTHERS



Leaders of Fashion

One-Price Store

ALBION, INDIANA



Ten Years Ago in March

we began business in this city. We succeeded from the start and each year has found something added to better our service. Our store policy has always been "The Best Merchandise for the Money and One Price to All."

By living up to this standard, hard work and proficient assistants we have succeeded in building up a very successful business.

Today we occupy one of the prettiest store rooms and carry one of the largest and cleanest stocks of merchandise to be found in Noble County—a record of which we are justly proud.

Ready made wear—"Wooltex Styles" for Well Dressed Women—"Kuppenheimer Clothes" for Well Dressed Men—a specialty.

Crossett Shoes
For Men

Krippendorf Shoes
For Women

KABO CORSETS

WALTER BONHAM



IN

FURNITURE & UNDERTAKING

It is my constant endeavor to
please you. Either telephone is
promptly answered at store or
residence. : : : : :

WALTER BONHAM

Successor to Elza Shaffer

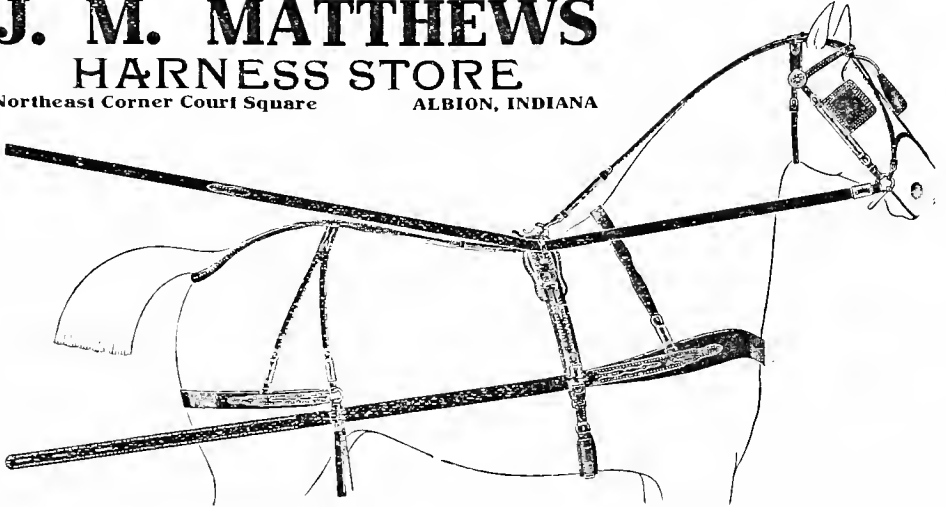
Business room located east of court house.
Established 1883.

ESTABLISHED 187

J. M. MATTHEWS HARNESS STORE

Northeast Corner Court Square

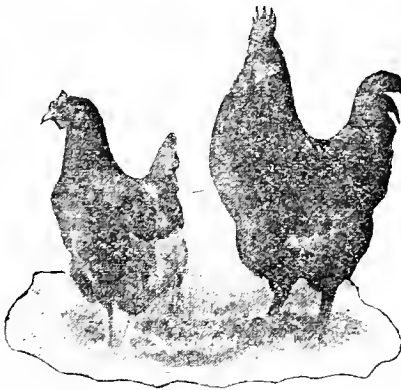
ALBION, INDIANA



Repair Work a Specialty



Prices on Harness & Repair Work
Lowest in County for Good Work



Rhode Island
Reds SINGLE
COMB ...

Famous Winter Layers

Eggs and Stock For
Sale in Season

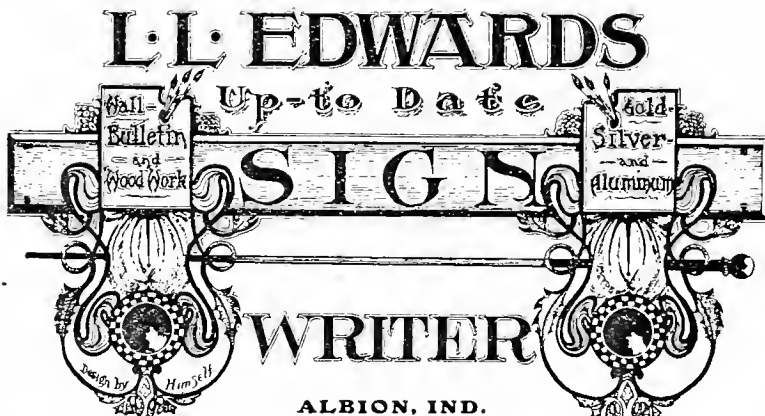
ALSO....

Barred Plym-
outh Rocks

Real Thompson Ringlets—Prize Winners. I get my stock and eggs direct from Thompson, America's Foremost Breeder and Prize Winner. I can't give them away, but can save you money if you want something good.

Chicks from either above strains on application.

J. A. HARKLESS, ALBION, IND.



BERT RICKARD

ALBION, IND.

**Carriage and
Sign Painter**

Originality and Adeptness

Behind the Brush

Established 1866

**P. A. Sunday's
HARNESS SHOP**

First door east of Clapp Block
East Main Street

ALBION, - INDIANA

**General Line of Harness
and Supplies**

Repair work a Specialty
Prices Always the Lowest.

**RUMBAUGH'S
MILLINERY STORE**

AND LADIES' BAZAAR

South Orange Street
ALBION, - INDIANA

Seasonable Millinery Al-
ways in Stock.

Hats trimmed to all tastes by first-
class trimmers.

Mrs. Willard Rumbaugh

Go Where the Crowd
Goes, See What They

.....SEE.....

GOOD MOVING PICTURES
and Hear the Illustrated
Songs at the

Unique Theatre
EVANS & ALVORD
Props.
ALBION, INDIANA

C. W. BECK

PRODUCE DEALER...

ALBION, - - INDIANA

Highest price paid for poultry
at all seasons of the year.
When offering anything in
this line inquire of us before
selling and make money.

Commenced business under Hart's grocery in 1883, under
firm name of Beck & Franks. Removed to present loca-
tion north of Court House about two years later. Business
purchased by C. W. Beck in 1902.

Fine Shoes for Ladies and Men AND CHILDREN

ALL
SIZES
SHAPES
AND
STYLES

G. SCHWAB
SHOE DEALER
SHOE FITTER

THE
PRICES
ARE
ALWAYS
RIGHT

CUSTOMERS ONCE, CUSTOMERS ALWAYS

East of Court House - - - ALBION, INDIANA

Commenced business in Albion in 1886 in block erected by
G. Schwab. Located in Wawaka in 1869. A native of
Switzerland.


ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We acknowledge favors from the following persons, and their writings, for photos, contributions and historical information:

The late Hon. S. E. Alvord, historian.

Hon. Nelson P. Eagles	Elijah Coats
Hon. James M. Denny	Albert Black
Rev. C. A. Price	Frank Saltzgaber
Rev. L. E. Knox	Hugh Inscho
Rev. William Talbert	W. A. Kuhn
Mrs. Louisa Kline	Charles Hauck
Miss Hattie Bidwell	W. A. Fox
John A. Harkless	Charles Sieber
John C. Cleland	Riley Smith
John W. Morehouse	Joseph Gatwood
Leander Rupert	C. B. Phillips

Charles W. Beck

 ERRATA—Page 62, Wesleyan organization should read "1867 or '68." Page 73 for Cleland farm residence instead of 66 as appears in F. C. Fuller's advertisement.



WILL H. McEWEN

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

THE ALBION DEMOCRAT

NORTH OF COURT HOUSE, ALBION, IND.

TWICE-A-WEEK MONDAY and THURSDAY \$1.50 PER YEAR
"All the News All the Time"

Best Equipped Job Office in Noble County—Satisfaction Guaranteed—
Society and Stationery Printing our Specialty—Your Patronage Solicited

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ADVERTISEMENTS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

